

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 2221

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

About one-half of Norway is now under absolute prohibition; the other half is likely to become so at the elections of this year.

The last Massachusetts census shows that there are in the State 47,000 more women than men. The men have gained a little the last ten years.

In the Norwegian town of Hangesund which has a population of 6,200, not a drop of spirituous liquor has been sold for 29 years. Many of the inhabitants never tasted liquor.

An anti-gambling crusade is being actively and hopefully waged in Australia. The leading Protestant denominations have banded together for this purpose and an agitation has sprung up which has taken hold of the popular mind.

Medical etiquette varies much in different countries. It is often embarrassing to travellers in Europe to find that a physician will say nothing to his patient regarding his fee, leaving the matter entirely to his generosity and conscience. The Esquimaux manage this more frankly. The fee is paid to the doctor when he comes. If the patient recovers, the matter is settled; if he dies, the money is returned to the family.

"The American Order of United Catholics" is a new organization now extending throughout the United States, and, perhaps, in this country, also. Its object is to help Catholics, and Catholics only, in business and occupation, and to uphold and defend the Catholic faith and institutions in State and national politics. It is a secret society with grips and passwords, and it is only indirectly connected with the Catholic Church.

It is starting to learn, on the authority of Mr. W. H. Wilkins, in *The Humanitarian*, that there are in London over 1,000 barmaids, between the ages of 20 and 35, who are daughters of men ranking as gentlemen. Of these 400 are the daughters, sisters or nieces of clergymen of the Church of England, over 200 are the daughters of army officers, nearly 200 are the daughters of physicians and surgeons, and about a hundred state that their fathers held commission rank in the Navy.

London "Truth" publishes a letter from Italy which gives a deplorable picture of the condition of affairs. The letter says that a revolution is only a question of time; that the taxes are 60 per cent. on all incomes, and that the starving state of the peasantry and the lower classes generally equals that of the French before the revolution. In Sardinia, he adds, mothers are feeding their children on grass and weeds by the roadside and in all parts there are deaths from starvation. The woman straw-workers of Tuscany, it appears, are in open revolt, and everywhere the men and women are reduced to skeletons, and are to be seen carrying their last rags to be sold for taxes.

The physicians of Chicago have the right of way through the streets of that city, by virtue of an ordinance recently passed by its Common Council. The physician who takes advantage of the ordinance is furnished with a badge and a permit which gives him the right of way on the streets and over bridges, ahead of processions, fire lines, and other obstructions that may impede his progress in the discharge of his professional functions. The badge, which is about the size of a quarter of a dollar, is made of German silver, and has a red cross inside a circle. The benefits of the ordinance extend to ambulances. About one thousand physicians have already availed themselves of its privileges.

A recent issue of "The Peking Gazette" contains an official edict declaring that the Emperor of China has decided to encourage railroads in every way in order to make them an accomplished fact in the Empire. The construction of two lines is at the same time specifically sanctioned by the decree. One railroad is to connect Tien-Tsin with Peking, and is to be built at the cost of the Government. The second, which is to run across Central China from Peking to Hankow, is to be constructed by a

syndicate "of wealthy men and rich merchants of the provinces traversed by the road, the syndicate in question having already subscribed a capital of 10,000,000 taels toward the expense of the undertaking."

Free Baptists.

As a sect Free Baptists are not numerous; as a people they are. If all who hold their views of truth and duty were organically united, they would make one of the largest and most influential bodies in the country. There are tens of thousands of them in the close Baptist denomination, and quite as many in pebaptist bodies. They are doing good and advancing their characteristic views where they are, yet they might do still more were they united in one body. They do not believe in infant baptism, nor in sprinkling for baptism, nor in rejecting any real Christians from the Lord's table; but do hold to the immersion of believers and the communion of saints.

A great host now hold the same belief, and the number is rapidly increasing. The query is often made, "Why do not Free Baptists increase more rapidly?" As an organization their growth is slow; as a belief, delightfully rapid. On the latter basis, which after all is the better one, they must number more than a million, and surely have doubled within a few years.

As a separate body they are much more numerous than usually supposed. The Freewill Baptist General Conference contains little, if any, more than half of them. They exist in several associations and bear different names, but are nevertheless one people. This many are slow to recognize. They are unable to see how the various associations can belong to one body of people without being organically connected with one conference. Yet the close Baptists are one denomination, though they have no general conference and no organic bond of union above the local association. Why are not the local associations that hold the same Free Baptist faith one denomination also? They are, in fact, and ought to be so recognized. When we recognize ourselves as one, the world will learn to do the same. We ought to do it, that our real strength may be known and our testimony have weight.

Some of our own people belittle our growth and discourage themselves. Our religious rivals are eager to handle discouraging statistics, and deter people from uniting with us, because, as they reason, we are not flourishing. We are not wise to invite such attacks. The fact is, our faith has increased rapidly and our organic growth has been encouraging. We must consider circumstances. Forty years ago all class of Free Baptists in the United States did not exceed 50,000; and they were found chiefly in out-of-the-way places, worshipping in school-houses, poor, illiterate, prejudiced against educated ministers or paying them for preaching, without schools or literature. The great movement to cities has for years depleted all country churches, and, as we had few churches in cities, our people poured into other denominations. Emigration West also caused great losses, while larger bodies gained by gathering our people into their churches where we had none.

Yet in forty years we have raised more than \$1,500,000 for schools; over \$400,000 for foreign missions; planted more than fifty churches in cities; founded five colleges and two theological seminaries; built 2000 meeting-houses raised up several hundred educated men for the ministry, and increased our membership at least 250,000, or 300 per cent. In the Freewill Baptist General Conference we have 80,000; in Southern Associations 25,000; in the General and Separate Baptist Associations 15,000; in the Church of God 30,000; and if we include the brethren in the Provinces, 15,000 [There are more in the Provinces. Ed. INTL.]; we have 165,000 in all. Now all of these people are essentially Free Baptists, hold the same views, represent the same reforms, have grown out of the same Christian impulses, belong to the same specific family, and are as truly one denomination as the various shades of close Baptists are who are reported under one denominational title.

In the face of these facts have we reason to hang our heads or feel dis-

couraged? If we progress as fast the next forty years we shall fill no mean place in the army of the Lord. There are good reasons to expect that one half, at least, of the close Baptist body will become free in less than forty years, and a large per cent of the Congregational body accept our views of baptism. We must push our church extension, plant churches in cities, redouble our zeal in saving souls; and the harvest we shall gather will prove that we have not lived in vain.—*Cur Journal*

Prohibition in A Large City.

Atlanta, Georgia, is under prohibition. The *Wesleyan Advocate* of that city says of it:

Prohibition in this city does prohibit. The law is observed as well as the law against carrying concealed weapons, gambling, and other offenses of like character. If there had been as many people in favor of carrying concealed weapons, theft, gambling, etc., as there was in favor of the retail of ardent spirits twelve months ago, law against these things would not have been carried out as well as it was against the liquor trade. In consideration of the small majority with which prohibition was carried, and the large number of people who were opposed to seeing it prohibit, the law has been marvelously well observed. Prohibition has not injured the city financially. According to the assessor's books, property in the city has increased over \$2,000,000. Taxes have not been increased. Two streets in the city, Decatur and Peters, were known as liquor streets. It was hardly considered proper for a lady to walk these streets without an escort. Now they are just as orderly as any in the city. Property on them has advanced ten to twenty-five per cent. The loss of \$40,000 revenue consequent on closing the saloons has tended in no degree to impede the city's progress in any direction. Large appropriations have been made to the water works, the public schools, the Piedmont Fair, and other improvements. The business men have raised \$400,000 to build the Atlanta & Hawkinsville Railroad. The number of city banks is to be increased to five. The coming of four new railroads has been settled during the year. Fifteen new stores, containing house-furnishing goods, have been started since prohibition went into effect. These are doing well. More furniture has been sold to mechanics and laboring men in the last twelve months than in any twelve months during the history of the city. The manufacturing establishments of the city have received new life. A glass factory has been built. A cotton-seed oil mill has been built worth \$125,000. All improvement companies, with a basis in real estate, have seen their stock double in value since the election on prohibition.

Then, after giving an account of many practical reforms, it says: All these reforms have had a decided tendency to diminish crime. Two weeks were necessary formerly to get through with the criminal docket. During the present year it was closed out in two days. The chain gang is left with almost nothing but the chains and balls. The gang part would not be large enough to work the public roads of the country were it not augmented by fresh supplies from other countries. The city government is in the hands of our best citizens.

An Unnatural Tone in Preaching.

Not long ago the criticism was made on a certain young minister that notwithstanding his good points, he was a very disagreeable speaker because of the habit of preaching in an unnatural and unnecessarily loud tone of voice. How strange it is that so many people when speaking on the subject of religion assume a peculiarly solemn and unnatural tone! When they pray, or read the Bible, or speak in the testimony meetings, and as it is with some preachers in the pulpit, they assume a tone so unnatural as to be positively repulsive to thoughtful people.

It was stated in regard to the minister above referred to that in preaching a funeral sermon his voice was natural and reasonably modulated, whereupon some one suggested that he

should only preach on funeral occasions.

A recent writer in the *Sunday School Times* relates the following incident, which is said to have had a good effect:

"A preacher in one of our cities has been in the habit of delivering excellent sermons, Sunday after Sunday, by yelling at his audience, to their discomfort and vexation. He got married the other day, and the first thing this wise woman of Tekoa did was to take his manuscript, and insert at short intervals, in red ink, 'Don't holler so loud!' The congregation were highly amused when they heard of this scheme for their benefit, but I understand it works well."

There are many preachers who would be much more effective in their pulpit work, and much more highly appreciated, if they did not "holler" so much. Who will tell them about it?—*Telegraph*.

Electrical Wonders.

The science of electricity seems to be but in its infancy. Just when the world begins to believe that the possibilities of this wonderful agent have been exhausted, along come these modern wizards with some new discovery. About five years ago Nikola Tesla was laughed at as a dreamer for maintaining that one day electric lighting would be accomplished without the aid of his vacuum tube system, his dream is now a reality. He has produced a light which is whiter, more brilliant and more intense than the arc light, and is produced with a much smaller amount of electrical energy. A laboratory photograph has been made by means of this light with an exposure of only two seconds. The detail in the photograph is remarkably fine. Tesla states that his apparatus has been greatly simplified, and he will soon have it ready for practical use. Thomas A. Edison, not to be outdone, working on different lines, has succeeded in developing a new kind of electric lamp, or vacuum tube, by means of which the Roentgen (or X) rays are turned into pure, white light. Edison's new lamp is an ordinary Crooke's tube, coated on the interior surface with crystals of a new fluorescent substance, which he has discovered, similar to tungstate or calcium. The X rays in passing through this coating of crystals, are changed to light. Very little heat is generated, and nearly the whole of the electrical energy expended is transformed into light. The new lamp is used in place of the Crooke's tube with the ordinary X rays apparatus. Mr. Edison expects that before long he will so develop it that it may be used with high economy on an ordinary incandescent circuit. Truly, wonders never cease.—*Chris. Standard*.

Cholera in Egypt.

In spite of the efforts of the sanitary authorities the dreaded cholera continues to spread. It has even reached Assouan, near the First Cataract of the Nile, being conveyed, it is thought, by passengers on the river boats. Sunday's report gave 89 deaths out of 345 cases, new and old, in 52 localities, but the statistics are very unreliable, owing to lack of supervision. The railway is expected to reach Akasheh very shortly. Seventy-three miles were completed up to last week. River communications have been established for 87 miles south of Wady Halfa. Numerous bodies of Dervishes have been seen. On the Suakim side the Emir of Berber proposes to combine with Osman Digma to fill up the wells, and so retard the expected advance of the Indian troops.

Cases of Faith-Cure.

Dr. Martineau, in a conversation with a *Westminster Gazette*, (London) correspondent, referred to some extraordinary cures by means of prayer worked by a young woman at Berlin when he was a student there. One case came under the Doctor's own notice—that of an old woman who had been bed-ridden for years with rheumatism. Medicine had done her no good, but on hearing of this woman's successful cures she was anxious to see her. An almost instantaneous cure was effected, the old woman leaving her bed and becoming quite active, well, and free from pain. Now it happened that there was a strong anti-Jewish feeling at Berlin, and one day it came out that this young woman was

a Jewess. The result of this discovery was remarkable, for in nearly every case the malady returned. This rheumatic old woman took to her bed instantly on learning the news, and the next day was as bad as ever. Dr. Martineau considered that this showed the double working of a faith cure. He did not doubt but that the original cures of nervous complaints were genuine, but they rested on the belief of the patient, and when this belief was subsequently undermined by the discovery that the healer was a Jewess, the disbelief that a Jewess could achieve any good thing proved stronger than the apparent fact that she had done so.

Dr. Martineau, adds the correspondent, told me of a well-known Irish priest—I. e., Father Mathew, the great 'Apostle of Temperance'—who effected some signal cures in cases of nervous disease by merely extending his hand in blessing. He was a quiet, unassuming man who emphatically disclaimed any mysterious power. 'God alone knows how they are cured,' he said; 'I cannot refuse to bless those who ask for my blessing: I make no pretence of curing their physical complaints, and if they are cured it is owing to the Divine interposition.'

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.]

Report of Second District Society.

The following report was read at the public missionary meeting, Rockland, C. Co., June 20th, by Mrs. R. Alexander, Sec. Treas.: To-day we meet to celebrate the sixteenth anniversary of the W. F. M. Society of the Second District. For sixteen years we have had the opportunity of helping to carry out the great commission in this wonderful work. Interwoven with its past history, are events which thrill our hearts. Time and ability fail us to tell of what it has accomplished, and of its far reaching influences. To day we thank our Heavenly Father for His blessing on our work, and that our lives have been spared to meet again in annual meeting.

We have heard from nineteen societies. From most of them there is but little account of work done, save collecting the money. Woodstock circle, however, has kept their interest awake by holding their prayer meetings, one result of which has been an increase in membership and funds. They number 37, and contributed \$45.85.

The sec. of Hartland, Mrs. Day, writes: "We have held our monthly meetings, and they have been a source of great spiritual blessing to us." They number eleven members, and send \$15.00.

Tracy Mills have also sustained their monthly meetings, they send \$19.00. Waterville and Third Tier circles have joined in holding their monthly meetings. During the winter months socials were held once a fortnight, and those present who were not members paid ten cents admission fee. We trust that good has been done and much interest awakened.

Waterville contributed	21 30
Rockland	4 33
Windsor	4 30
Gordonsville	2 00
Knowlesville	7 80
Upper Brighton	3 75
Lower Brighton	17 00
Victoria Corner	16 00
Sonerville	6 20
Connell	5 00
Charleston	2 50
Pamphos	8 00
Brookville	2 00
Lindsay	3 95
Knoxford	6 40
Third Tier	9 25
Collection at public meeting	3 48

From Master Warren Hale, Grafton, the boy who last year resolved to give a tenth of his income, we received \$2.00 for the orphanage fund. He says he has prospered. We expect a boy like that to prosper, and be a blessing to humanity. The total amount received is \$205.11, being an advance of what has ever been contributed in this District for this purpose. Much of this means sacrifice; for instance, a widow was telling me what a struggle she had to make a living, and offered me a dollar, which I hesi-

tated to take, saying she would likely need it. "O," said she, "It is the widow's mite; but the Lord has been so good to me, that I give it willingly."

The annual meeting was held in the afternoon of Saturday, June 20th. The President, Mrs. McFarland, occupied the chair. After reading Scriptures and singing, a number of sisters joined in prayer. After reading minutes, and the re-election of officers, Mrs. Phillips was appointed to speak with reference to Miss Gannon's work next year. The work of the societies was discussed, especially the importance of sustaining the monthly prayer-meetings in each circle, carrying the needs of our work before Him who has said, "Ask, and ye shall receive."

In the evening there was an excellent public missionary meeting. Mrs. Phillips, in her interesting way, gave an account of the work. The report was read by the Sec. Most of the time, however, was occupied by stirring addresses from Rev. Geo. F. Currie and Dr. McLeod.

And now, dear sisters, let us not be satisfied with our present attainments, but let us enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitation; spare not, lengthen thy cords, strengthen thy stakes." We hope the presence of our loved and heroic sister, Mrs. Clara I. Boyer, returned missionary, will stimulate greater energy and activity in this grand work.

Respectfully submitted,
R. J. ALEXANDER.

From the Home Secretary.

Not having the names and addresses of the District Secretaries, I write to request all such, who are in need of blanks for local societies, to write me, stating the number required, and I will forward them at once.

In looking over the minutes of last year, I noticed that only one report out of seven was received by the Home Secretary. This was occasioned, no doubt, by her removal into another Province. I feel assured that no such circumstance will occur this year, but that each report will be promptly received. The success of our societies depends largely upon the faithfulness and efficiency of our officers.

Yours respectfully,
P. A. HARTT,
Home Sec.

Jacksontown, C. Co.,
June 24th, 1896.

FREE BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE.—The annual meeting of the Free Baptist young people is to convene with the Christian Endeavor Society, in connection with the Free Baptist church, at Keswick, York county, on Tuesday, August 4. The last session was held in this city in the church on the West Side and was one of deep interest to Free Baptists. This year promises to be even a better session than the last. The programme as published by the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is marked with new and special features. The annual sermon is to be preached by Rev. C. T. Phillips, of Woodstock whose subject will be, Growth in Grace. A large number of papers on practical subjects will be read by prominent workers. Delegates are expected from both Nova Scotia and United States.—*Telegraph*.

REMARRED.—Paul Deshams, of Oklahoma, was divorced from his wife in Canada ten years ago, after twenty years of married life. A short time ago he discovered that a woman who had taken up a claim next to him was his former wife. He went to see her and in a few minutes they had patched up their difficulty and went down town to be remarried.

Among Exchanges.

ON ONE SIDE.

There are too many people in the church who have religion only on one side—the outside.—*Ram's Horn*.

"TRANSPORTATION." A wise and witty preacher says that if the main object of a Christian is simply to miss hell and get to heaven, then the gospel ought to be called, not the gospel of salvation, but of transportation.—*Phil. Standard*.

A WRONG STANDARD.

Too many compare their gifts to the church to the gifts of others. Such a test of our responsibilities is not a Scriptural one. We are not to give as others give, but we must give as we have ability without regard to what others do.—*The Messenger*.