

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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March Payments.

A considerable number of subscriptions expire this month. We hope to have renewals for another year from them all. Will they do us the favour of sending them at the earliest possible date?

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

No place is tunnelled so much as the rock of Gibraltar, where there are upwards of seventy miles of underground passages.

President Francis E. Clark has secured for use as a gavel at the next general Christian Endeavor Convention, to be held at San Francisco, the shoemaker's hammer used by William Carey before he went as a missionary to India. This is the contribution of a prominent English Endeavorer.

Just the other day it was stated that masses were to be said in Rome for the benefit of the late Pio Nono, who departed this life a number of years ago. Would it not be as well to assume that the Pope was a good Christian and that he has entered into rest with the faithful? If he was a true Christian there is no need of help for him from any fund of merits on earth.

Thirty-nine life insurance companies did business in Canada in 1896—eleven Canadian, fourteen British and fourteen American. On 31st of December \$327,730,511 was in force, the premiums for the year totalling \$10,597,076. Claims were paid during the year to the amount of \$4,706,157. There are now 150,148 life insurance policies in force in Canadian companies out of a total of 261,259 policies in force throughout the Dominion.

A War Office clerkship in Washington, with a salary amounting to \$1500, was recently competed for. The only candidate who possessed the necessary qualifications, which included the knowledge of five languages, as well as typewriting and proofreading, was a woman of high character and many accomplishments. Her disappointment may be imagined when the appointment was refused to her on the ground that another qualification had just been thought of—viz., that the clerk should be a man.

Writing of the bright side of 1896, the 'Advance' says it was one of the most notable of all years for its generous gifts to colleges, churches and charities. Without taking account of the small sums collected by various organizations through the usual methods, the aggregate of special contributions and large gifts was \$33,670,000, nearly \$5,000,000 more than in 1895, and \$13,500,000 more than in 1894. Of this amount \$10,854,000 went to charities, \$2,135,142 to churches, \$16,814,000 to colleges, and \$2,000,000 more to museums and art galleries.

During the past six years there have been 183 stoppages of trains in the United States from criminal purposes, and they have involved the killing of seventy-three persons and the wounding of fifty-eight, to say nothing of property stolen. These facts indicate the need of severer legislation on the subject. A bill has been presented to Congress that the penalty for train robbery should be death. A similar statute might be adopted by individual states, especially those in which train robbery is common.

Commissioner Booth-Tucker, who was born in India, and has spent most of his life there, says famine and pestilence are among the normal conditions there. There are districts and those some of the fairest, where hunger is never absent, where cholera averages 300,000 deaths in an ordinary year. Starvation claims at least 1,000,000. The greatest living authority on Indian statistics calculates that from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 people scarcely ever lose the sensation of hunger; in fact, do not know the feeling of a full stomach, except in the mango season.

Dr. Leipziger, the editor of 'Die Kleine Journal,' a popular paper in Berlin, has instituted in that city a novelty in the form of a Mart and Exchange for the Unemployed. This Exchange has been opened in

the splendid building of the New York Equitable Life Assurance Society in Berlin. The premises include reading rooms, with writing material, a well-equipped library, and a general hall. Clerks, governesses, housemaids, warehousemen, laborers, and all sorts of workers are within the scope of the Exchange. The venture bids fair to accomplish much for the unemployed and for the relief of the working classes generally.

What have the Bible and Sunday-School done for us?

[A paper read by C. W. Weyman, at the Sixth District Semi-Annual S. S. Convention, held at Peticoed, Feb. 17th, and published by request of the Convention.]

In consenting to say a few words on this important subject, I did so in a spirit of yielding to a desire of the executive of enrolling as many Sunday School workers as possible in our Convention work, so as to interest and help them. In considering the subject, "What will the Bible and Sunday School do for us?" I do not wish to be understood to ignore the grand work the church is doing, at present, but to speak chiefly of the Sabbath-school phase of christian work. The Bible is God's Book; and the Sabbath-school has well chosen God's Holy day to study more fully its pages. In the Bible we have such knowledge of the Divine Being as He has been pleased to give us. We learn of His knowledge, wisdom, power and of His wonderful love and goodness. The wonderful consideration of God for man is manifested in His word: first, in His Creation, by giving man His own image and a living soul. Man may well date back to his creation with loving pride. The other orders of creation were ordered to be or "Let there be;" but it would seem as if our Creator took a peculiar interest in the form we should take. And then the gift of the living soul is, may I say? a part of God Himself. No wonder the steam-engine goes quickly from place to place; no wonder the electric current turned to words, spans the continent in a few seconds; no wonder that by telephone we can talk with friends hundreds of miles away! What the Bible has done in the past we may well expect it to do in the future, and more, because we are living under a better dispensation. The Jews were only better than the nations around them because of the teachings of the Almighty; and when they were faithful to His commands and statutes no nation or peoples ever prospered like them, or were more happy in their social relations, or more useful to our Heavenly Father in His efforts to teach the nations around them. Who would not like to be counted in with those whom Paul summed up in Hebrews, when he speaks of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham who all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off? And the Apostle after naming many more of the Patriarchs and Prophets, says the time would fail him to tell of Gideon, of Barak, of David and Samuel and many others, who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of the fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight. And then he says, "God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."

Thus we have some idea what our Heavenly Father will do for those who love him, but the Apostle tells us God has provided some better thing for us. Can we, do we realize it? What faith we ought to have. They believed the promises would be fulfilled; we believe and know they have been fulfilled. We, having the Old Testament and the New, having knowledge of the blessings of God's people under the former things, may well take courage and exercise large faith, especially when there are better things provided for us. In our Sabbath-schools we do well to study the blessings, successes, warnings and failures of God's people, also the judgments that came upon them for disobedience. With the Bible in our hands, containing these experiences of the past, the knowledge, the wisdom, the counsel of our Heavenly Father, and the wonderful gift of His love, we may well enquire what will the Bible and the study of it through the Sunday-school do for us? This is an age of "Peace on earth and good will toward men." The Almighty does not seem to visit sam-

marily the sins of his people, but we shall as surely give account of our stewardship. The Bible is complete, it is doing its part. Are we doing ours? Has the Sabbath-school permeated every portion of our land? Have the officers and teachers been filled with the spirit of the Master? Has the teaching been such as to lead the scholars to Christ? We believe they have in a measure. Then, what more do we want? We want the measure heaped up, pressed down and running over. We want the Sabbath-school workers filled with a running-over love for God's word, and for His vineyard, before we get the full fruition of what they will do for us. The Sabbath-school aims to assist the parents in teaching the children of God's word. It will help and benefit all who will come under its influence. Too many have an idea that the Sabbath-school is only suitable for children. Heaven bless the children. They are always ready to go to the Sabbath-school; and it is from the ranks of the Sunday-school we have a large majority of our christian workers. But while this is the case, we feel there is need of us doing more work for the Master. We may not be required to go into the Lion's den, nor into a furnace seven times more hot than it was wont to be, but we have foes to encounter about as stubborn. How about the social and moral life of our people and nation? Are there not going out every day, in the various channels and avocations of business life, boys and girls in their teens from our Sabbath-schools, honest simple and pure, to mingle in social life? Are they well prepared? Many a one would face even the fiery furnace who cannot stand the temptations of social life. And yet social life is good. We need it. But give us the class of social life we would get from associating with the good Samaritan.

The Bible attacks every evil: So must the Sabbath-school; So must every christian. We will either be overcomers, or we shall be overcome. There is no lukewarm position that is acceptable. We have evils to attack. There stands the liquor traffic, gigantic in its evils, with not one redeeming feature. Its drink is bad; its social life is worse. The liquor traffic insidiously weaves its way into every phase of society. Its grasp is like the grasp of the Devil Fish. Our boys and girls are going down under its influence. The girls seem almost to have the sorrest trial of the two, in this life. The boys and the fathers seem to go on in a whirl pool of excitement, not stopping to think. Not so the tride and the mother. The first thing that lies leading and almost crushed within her is God's best gift, Love. Then come wearisome days and nights, a scanty cupboard, slim fires, thin covering, cold and hungry children wanting to know when pap will come home. But I hear you saying, 'what can the Bible and Sunday-school do to destroy the liquor traffic?' Its influence is everywhere—in our churches, in our Sabbath-schools in our homes. Shall we send out our boys and girls to be crushed by it? No! No! We must put it down, wipe it out of existence. Can we? We can. God and the Bible straight every time. The church and Sabbath-school and the temperance people divided. If christians were the peculiar people the Bible instructs them to be, how quickly would this evil be put away from our land and nation. But we have many other evils. Corruption in politics is one of them. The Almighty told the Jews that if they would keep his statutes, commandments and Sabbaths, to do them, He would bless them and be a father to them, and they should be his sons and daughters. Blessed promise! Think you it does not hold good still! Are we not very often electing men to our legislative halls to make laws, who care not for God or the Bible? How can we expect nationally to be spoken of as that nation "whose God is the Lord." How can we expect to have the best laws for the government of our people while a few thousand dollars will get a man his election? while we allow these things among us, corruption will be in our people, in our legislators, in our laws. Does being a devoted christian lessen a man's ability to be a statesman? We think not. Will not Joseph and David rank the highest as statesmen and Prime Ministers in the world's history? My friends, we must see our faces like flint against these great evils. We want so-called "society" purified, so that its influence will help build in us all especially in the young, the character that will stand the test of being weighed in the balances, and not found wanting. We want the liquor traffic completely done away; we want no revenue from it. Give us instead the life, the spring, the happiness, the intelligence, the muscle that are wasted by the traffic, and we will soon make up the revenue. We want the politics of our country purified; we want no bribery and corruption; we want our politicians to stand on their integrity and merits. You ask, how is all this to be accomplished? The Bible will do its part. Will we do ours? Will the church do its part? The disciples of Christ should be a peculiar people, a model people, a converted people. They should pay dollar for dollar, they should be shrewd but not mean, they should never deceive in any bargain or sale, their word should be as good as gold, their social life should be helpful, protective, full of confidence and comfort. They

should never sell their votes. Think of a man selling the only grip he has got in the welfare of his country for a few dollars. Shame!

We are counselled to buy of the Master "gold tried in the fire, that we may be rich." We are persuaded to have "the fruits of the spirit." We are taught that we must have the charity that "thinketh no evil, that suffereth long and is kind." If these things be in us and abound, we shall not be barren nor unfruitful. We shall overcome the forces that are opposed to the reign of peace on earth and good will toward men.

Storms, Salaries and Prayers

The Baptist General missionary in South Dakota writes the 'Examiner' of the difficulties attending the work of himself and other ministers this winter. He says:

"This is the hardest winter that I ever saw in South Dakota or elsewhere. I reached home yesterday, having been absent ten days. Five days I was snowbound, as no trains could go either way on account of numerous and very deep drifts, some of them from eight to eleven feet deep. I succeeded in getting home yesterday by telegraphing for a permit to ride on a rotary snow-plow fifty miles or more.

Another minister in South Dakota tells of equally trying experiences in that State. He says:

"The writer has been five years on these prairies, working as a missionary pastor. The present winter is by far the worst. Only those who have experienced a North Dakota blizzard have any idea how terrible it is; to be caught out means certain death. They seldom last less than forty-eight hours. It is difficult to carry on our work. It is often at the risk of being frozen that the missionary attempts his pastoral work. Many of our missionaries are poorly provided for. Think of a missionary exposed to the terrible cold of winter, as well as the burning suns of summer, and for his year's stipend, to feed, clothe and educate his children, as well as to find the bare necessities of life with, to receive the enormous sum of \$350. We need your prayers."

We have no doubt they do need prayers; but we are just a little doubtful about the value of the prayers of the people who permit their missionaries to undergo such hardships and risks as are described, paying them only \$350 a year. This statement is not intended to apply to the Dakota situation alone; there are cases substantially the same in these Provinces.

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.]

India Letter.

(Continued.)

At six o'clock in the evening the gong sounded, the signal for the people to assemble. It was not long before the house was packed—the Hindus taking up their position in the background. The tree was very much admired, and it, certainly, was attractive, with the bright pictures, print jackets and dresses, and lights. The exercises opened by singing, followed by prayer. The pastor, then gave a short address on the birth of Christ; the school children recited appropriate texts of Scripture. Next in order was the distribution of gifts, soap and sweet-meats. After everybody had enjoyed themselves the pastor pronounced the benediction, and the people dispersed. Just before retiring time the pastor and colporteur came in and said, "We really do not feel easy about you sleeping here, because it is very easy for a robber to enter. If you have any money you had better not leave it in a bag, but put it under your head." I really was not feeling the least timid, for two women were to spend the night with me, and, besides, I expected two chokadars to sleep on one side of the verandah. But their words of precaution did not serve to make me courageous, for at every movement of the curtain screens in the doorway, I was alert. I have often been surprised at the little faith these people put in one another.

Since coming here work has begun on the well, which will be "pucca." There is no need of me explaining that term, a few months ago Miss Wile, in one of her letters, defined it. The men are at work at the brick. To-day I was thinking that it was providential

that work on the house had to be closed last year. I really do not know what these poor christians would do if it were not for the work that is being carried on at present. Their rice crop, as you know, was a failure last year. As the thought was impressed upon me, it seemed to me I ought to have a stronger faith in God, in His wisdom and care.

In the afternoon I have been going out to the Hindu villages. I have been in nearly all the near villages. One day I am certain one hundred people—men, women and children—listened to the word. At one place I visited over fifty, they were nearly all women and children. The women left their work, and came hurrying from all directions to see me. I find all the people very much interested in the singing. One day a Brahmin said to the women who were with me, "You come here telling about your religion, with the hope you may get some one to believe in it." "Yes," I replied, "that is just why we come." In all the villages I have entered, I have not found one school. There are two villages in which I would like to establish schools, but I know of no christian teacher to send. The Mofussil Hindus are much more prejudiced than those living among Europeans.

At several houses I have been asked if I use tobacco, they would offer it to me as a mark of respect. At a Hindu home, visited this week, I was treated to milk and native sugar. While there, two holy men came for alms. As soon as they entered, the head men of the house bowed at their feet, the hookah was quickly lighted and given to one; the other, I concluded, did not use tobacco; he was given some rice, and went on his way. Another day I hope to go again to this village.

The chokadar has come. I generally have a call of twenty minutes or more from them nearly every evening. They are almost as interested in my home mail as I am myself. It is a great wonder to them that the people in America have never eaten curry and rice.

I have been invited out to every meal to-day. For Chota hozri I had country cake, made of rice, flour and cocoa-nut; parched rice; rice dried in molasses; sweet meats, sweet potatoes and a fruit something like artichokes.

Yesterday was market day in a village about three or four miles distant, where these people go to buy and sell, which explains the appearance of these unusual dishes. I must now say "good-night." I shall, (D. V.) write soon again.

Yours sincerely,
LIZZIE E. GAUNCE.

Ujarda, Jan. 29th, 1897.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Received from Lewiston, Maine, Mrs. E. S. Babcock.....\$1 00
Miss Caroline C. Babcock.....1 00
Subscriptions to Woman's Missionary Society.

M. A. VINCE,
Treas.

Woodstock, N. B.,
March 12th, 1897.

AN ARMENIAN REFUGEE.—Among the pupils at Mr. Moody's Northfield school for girls is a young Armenian woman. She was a teacher in a girl's College in Constantinople sustained by Americans. She was offered protection in the College during the massacre last summer. But she declined, saying,—"If my people perish, I will die with them; if they live, I will live with them." Six days and nights she awaited, sleepless, the threatened butchery. At last, with her relatives, she escaped to a British ship, abandoning their house and all its contents. Having been aided to America, she is studying at Northfield in the hope of a return in a safer time to teach her countrywomen.

EDUCATE YOUR CHILDREN.—The following, from the Michigan Advocate is as important as it is true:

Parents sometimes imagine that there is no use of educating their children except for the professions; that a boy who intends to be a farmer, or a mechanic, or a day laborer needs no raining in the universities. This sort of reasoning implies that the parent's judgement is infallible, and that his foreknowledge is absolute. None but God can tell what is before a child. There is probably no branch of knowledge which a sensible person, whatever his vocation, may not turn to excellent purpose. The day is past when ignoramus can expect to accomplish much in the battle of life.

The popular idea is to develop everywhere educated farmers, trained workmen, and skilled laborers. Every person should seek to excel in his own calling. It is well to acquire learning which is adapted to the requirements of our chosen vocation, but all kinds of culture help us more or less. It is better that a clodhopper should know Greek than that a minister of the gospel should be untaught in the classics.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.—The question has been frequently asked of late as to the time of the beginning of the twentieth century. According to the chronology of the bible, as now accepted by scholars, Christ was born toward the close of the fifth year B. C. A mistake was made in the sixth century by one Dionysius, in his reckonings, which makes the present year 1897, instead of 1901, which it really is. So that we are now in the twentieth century, and have been since the first day of January, 1897. It is unfortunate that a mistake should have been made in the date of the beginning of the Christian era, and it is to be regretted that it is one of those mistakes which is so hard of adequate explanation, and one so difficult of correction.—'Telescope.'

MOODY'S INSTITUTE.—For the past two years the Bible Institute at Chicago has had a special conference for ministers and evangelists and all Christian workers during the month of April. The attendance at them has been such, and the blessings resulting therefrom have been so encouraging, that there will be another conference from April 6th to 30th.

The regular work will be in constant session. There will be special lectures each afternoon. Supt. Torrey will speak on "Methods of Reaching Men, and Teaching the Bible."

Rev. W. W. Clark, the eminent Bible teacher, will speak on the following and other topics: "The Old and New Testaments Contrasted and Harmonized," "The Plan of the New Testament," "The Special Features of the Gospels" (illustrated by a large chart), "The Gospel of Mark," "Christ in the Hebrews," "The Person and work of the Holy Spirit," "Law and Grace Contrasted and Harmonized," "The Deep Things of God—six Layers of Truth," "The Dispensations—Past, Present and Future," (illustrated by a diagram) "The book of Revelation."

The rate will be \$5.00 for board and room.

This institute is doing great good. Many pastors receive help and stimulus which much increase their efficiency.

A MINISTER'S OPINION.—"It is regrettable that so many of our people appear to take no interest in their denominational paper."

A wolf in sheep's clothing is none the less a wolf.

The rest of Christ is for all who will give up sin.—Ram's Horn.

Among Exchanges.

NOT HEALTHY.

A gloomy religion is never a healthy one.—Weekly Witness.

NOT THE BEST FRIENDS.

Our best friends are not those who think we have no faults, but those who know our weaknesses and love us in spite of them. Don't hunt for a perfect friend, because in the first place he isn't to be found; and if he were to be he wouldn't be able to sympathize with you in your mistakes and failures.—The Lookout.

CAN YOU FIX IT?

Here is one man who makes whiskey, another who sells it, another who rents a house for the sale of it, another who votes with a party to license it, another who dies drunk. Now if you can fix that up so that some of that crowd will go to heaven and some to hell, you are a profound philosopher than ever I have been.—'Sam' Jones.

DO NOT WAIT.

If preachers wait until everybody is ready they will have no protracted meeting. In fact, it takes the impulse of a meeting to get some doubting disciples ready to join in an effort to save sinners. There may be obstacles in the way, but remember that the gospel faithfully preached can remove these. Let us all walk by faith and not suffer the season to pass without a special effort to win souls.—Chris Standard.