

TERMS AND NOTICES

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Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH, 17TH 1897.

Every church member should make the most he is permitted to of his own church.

This day, March 17th, thirty years ago, the founder of the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Rev. Ezekiel McLeod, ceased from labour and entered into rest. "Though dead, he yet speaketh."

"The Church of Humanity," is the name a new religious organization in Chicago proposes to give itself. Does it forget that every true church is a church of humanity? The church of Christ is for blessing humanity, and there is no need of a name which reflects on every church that rightly bears the name of Christ.

The union of the Free Presbyterians in Scotland with the United Presbyterian church is under consideration. A meeting to discuss it was held recently. It was agreed that such union is highly desirable; and there was so much harmony of feeling and unanimity of views that it is believed there will be very little difficulty in effecting the union. And so the good work of bringing together religious bodies that are practically one goes on.

By request of the Foreign Mission committee of Presbyterian General Assembly, this week is being observed in all the Presbyterian churches of Canada as a week of self-denial and special prayer in behalf of the foreign mission work of the denomination. And next Sunday special collections are to be taken in all the congregations. The foreign mission treasury of the church has an indebtedness of about \$30,000, and it is hoped this may be met. The need has not been caused by diminished contributions, but chiefly by the expansion of the work in the last year or two. We hope our brethren will get all they need for present purposes, and much more.

The kind of teaching given in many schools in England, in which the clergy of the Established Church have authority to give religious instruction is illustrated by this incident. The little daughter of a Methodist local preacher came home crying from the 'National' school. 'Oh! father,' she sobbed, 'I don't want to go to hell.' 'I don't think you will,' he replied. 'Oh! yes, I am going,' was her answer; 'teacher says so.' Inquiry elicited the fact that the teacher, in giving a lesson on the storm on the Sea of Galilee, told the children the boat Christ was in was the Church of England. That was saved. The other 'little boats' meant Dissenters, and they were all lost. 'And, oh! father,' concluded the child, 'I don't want to be lost and go to hell.' This, we called the simple teaching of the Bible as the Church understands it.

Teachers who show any disposition to mingle with dissenters, even in the slightest and most formal way, are quickly dismissed. A young lady teacher who received notice of dismissal asked the reason and was told by the clergyman that 'it was her making friends with the Wesleyans that was the reason for her dismissal.' She had gone one Sunday afternoon to hear a Wesleyan preacher—the only time she ever went.

OF MINISTERS.—Rev. A. H. Munroe (Baptist), formerly of this Province, died in St. Thomas, Ont. recently.

Rev. J. E. Goucher (Baptist), of Halifax, had an attack of paralysis last week. He is recovering, but has been ordered to rest from his duties for some time.

The Plebiscite.

A plebiscite on the question of prohibiting the liquor traffic has been promised by the Dominion Government. It will be taken some time this year, perhaps in the summer, at any rate before the snow of next winter falls. In a speech at a Prohibition Convention in Montreal a couple of weeks ago, Hon. Sydney Fisher said a bill to provide for the plebiscite will be brought before Parliament in the approaching session. He did not say just what plan the plebiscite bill will propose. It is to be hoped that it will be plain and simple that there can be no misunderstanding and no misleading complications of the main question with other phases of the prohibition movement.

A great duty is before the people of Canada. For the right discharge of this duty they should be getting ready. In some of the Provinces organization for the campaign has already been effected. In Quebec, which is one of the difficult Provinces, a fine organization has been made, and plans are being matured for a most thorough campaign, which they estimate will cost \$8,000 to \$10,000. Ontario is also ready for work. It is hoped that there will be like organization in every Province.

The liquor men are organized, and are already getting ready to carry on a vigorous campaign. They rely how much is at stake. They will make a desperate fight. The President of the liquor dealers' association in Quebec says they "will teach the fanatics that there is a point beyond which they cannot go." They propose to send speakers into every part of the country, to distribute literature, and they will, of course, resort to all the corrupt methods of securing votes. They have much money, ill-gotten, which they will use freely to accomplish their purpose.

The principal danger to the prohibition cause is the too confident feeling of many prohibitionists. They think the vote is sure to be overwhelming in favour of prohibition. It will be if this work is rightly done; it will not be by assuming that "we are all rights," and hurrahing for prohibition. It is the duty of those who do not wish the triumph of the rum traffic, and all the bad elements of society, to organize to meet the enemy and defeat him.

We are hoping that very soon there may be a meeting of representative prohibitionists to consider the question of a campaign organization.

That Incorporation.

The bill to incorporate another religious body as "The Free Baptist Denomination of New Brunswick" did not pass the Legislature. It came up again for consideration on Wednesday last week, and after some remarks by Mr. Smith, who had the bill in charge, and by Mr. McCain, another of the Carleton members, both speaking in favor of the bill, and by Mr. Seivewright in opposition to it, a motion to report progress, moved by Mr. Seivewright and seconded by Mr. Sumner, was adopted. For the information of any not acquainted with Parliamentary ways, it may be explained that a motion to "report progress," without leave to sit again, is simply a delicate way of killing a measure; and such death came to the bill in question.

On behalf of our people we wish to acknowledge indebtedness to the members of the Assembly who saw that the bill was unjust to a large denomination of Christians, and therefore opposed it. Some of them, at first, were inclined to favour the bill, but when they had given consideration to the facts placed before them they saw the matter differently, and acted accordingly. Messrs. Lockhart and Carpenter, Free Baptists, were, of course, opposed to the bill. Mention by name might, if necessary, be made of the other members who took what we regard as a fair and reasonable view of the question. We must, however, mention Mr. Seivewright who became the speaking leader of the opposition to the bill. Mr. Seivewright represents Gloucester Co. in which there is no Free Baptist Church, nor even, so far as we know, a single Free Baptist. The bulk of the population of the County is Roman Catholic; Mr. Seivewright, himself, is a Presbyterian. When the bill came before the Corporation's committee he saw the unfairness of the incorporation asked for, and, on that account alone, opposed it. The brief summary in the legislative report of his remarks shows the soundness of the position he took and the fairness with which he argued the case.

Mr. Smith, the champion of the bill, promises that application for incorporation will be renewed; perhaps it will be at the next session of the Legislature. We wish to repeat, what we said last week, that, so far as

we know, nobody objects to the incorporation of the body in question. But if, as has been intimated, that body is unwilling to be incorporated under any other name than the one it has assumed, there is not much probability that its desire will be granted.

Lest some of our people, who have read the Legislative reports in the daily and other secular papers, may have a wrong impression of some things said and done in connection with this incorporation matter, we wish to make a correction or two.

In the official report of the debate on the bill, on Friday 5th inst., Mr. Smith and Mr. Dibblee, of Carleton Co., are reported as follows:

"Mr. Smith said he had sent telegrams asking if the name Orser Free Baptist would be acceptable to the promoters of the bill. This had been agreed to by his colleagues and Rev. Jos. McLeod."

"Mr. Dibblee said he wished to corroborate the statement of his colleague (Smith) that a telegram had been sent to some of the ministers of this denomination asking if Orser Free Baptists would be acceptable to them. The telegram was acceptable to Rev. Dr. McLeod."

We have to say that the reference to Rev. Jos. McLeod in the foregoing quotations is incorrect. We do not quite understand how Mr. Smith came to make the statement. When Messrs. Dibblee, Smith and McCain think over the conversation they will, we think, remember that Dr. McLeod said, in effect, that he felt that it would not be proper for him to make any suggestion about a name, that all he had a right to do was to oppose giving the name Free Baptist to the body seeking incorporation; and that, as to the telegram, he said he had no opinion to offer further than that, probably, it could do no harm to send one. They will also remember that in the telegram written by Mr. Dibblee, he (Mr. D.) had erased the word "Free" before showing it to his colleagues and Dr. McLeod, and that the latter neither consented nor objected to either its form or its sending. He did not think that part of the affair any of his business, he did not intend to meddle with it, and he did not meddle with it.

The official report of the closing discussion on the bill (March 10th), says that Mr. Smith

"Read the report of the Rev. Joseph McLeod, who was a delegate from the Free Baptist Baptist Conference to the Free Baptist Conference during the past year, and claimed the rev. gentleman in his report recognized them by their own name, the name under which they seek to be incorporated. He was glad to see the Christian spirit so prevalent in the rev. gentleman's report upon the doing of this other Christian body, and he thought the same good feeling should be continued and these gentlemen allowed the name they ask for." Evidently Mr. Smith regarded this as an acknowledgment by us of the right of the body calling themselves Free Baptists to the name they assume. When he is more fully informed he will, perhaps, have a different opinion; The writer of the report alluded to attended the Yearly meeting of the religious body in question as directed by his Conference. He made a report of what he had done. In that report he called the people whom he had visited by the name which they have assumed. Common courtesy required that much, and neither he nor the people he was representing are in the habit of disregarding the ordinary courtesies. It is one thing to be polite enough to call a body by a name which it mistakenly uses; it is quite another thing to consent to that body being given a legal right to that name, and especially, when, as in this case, the name really belongs to another body. Nor is there any lack of Christian spirit or of good feeling in strongly opposing such legislation. The body seeking incorporation is more widely known as the Orserite church than by any other name. Members of that body know that we have no feeling towards them other than one of kindness, as has been shown in whatever relations personal or official, we have had with them. We have had occasion more than once to defend them against what we thought unfair criticisms, and have contended always that they should be given Christian sympathy and commendation in whatever they undertake for the extension of Christ's kingdom. But when they seek to be incorporated as "The Free Baptist Denomination" it becomes the duty of the real Free Baptists to oppose and prevent it. That, and that only, is what has been done.

It Pays.—A Methodist minister, re-mitting for forty-two (42) 'Wesleyan' subscribers, says: "This work has taken a good deal of time, but I find it pays."

It always pays the ministry and the church and all the interests of the cause to have the denominational paper go to the homes of the people. The INTELLIGENCER wants to enter every Free Baptist home in these Provinces, and thinks those who read it will be better and more useful members of the denomination.

Notes on Current Events.

Sullivan, convicted of the murder of Mrs. Dutcher and her son, was executed at Dorchester last Friday morning. The wretched man seems to have maintained as great coolness since his conviction and up to the moment of his execution, as during his trial. He left no public confession. He probably made a statement of his connection with the tragedy to the priest who was much with him since his conviction. Some things the priest has said give the impression that the killing of the Dutcher people was not a deliberate murder, but that the whole affair was the result of a drunken debauch in which Sullivan, Mrs. Dutcher and some others were the participants. But whether the theory established at the trial, or that suggested by what the priest says is correct, one thing is true, and that is the drink habit and the rum traffic caused the whole sad affair. The woman who was killed was a rum seller, and appears to have been a patron of her own bar; and Sullivan, face to face with death on the gallows, says that rum gambling and bad women ruined his life. The wretched man advised his brothers to abandon drinking and its accompanying evils. His advice and the awful end to which he came ought to have effect upon them; others, too, who have entered upon a course of vice should stop and think, for "the end of these things is death." We wonder whether those who time and again sold Sullivan drink have thought about their share of responsibility for the crime he committed, and for his hanging; and how those who advocate and defend the rum traffic have tried to determine their share in the tragedy; and whether those very good but very cowardly people who hesitate to oppose the traffickers it may hurt their business or lessen the contributions to their church, feel about it. All these classes have a share of responsibility. But "these things will occur anyway," they say. Some of them, doubtless, may; but let them be in spite of you, instead of with your consent.

There are only ninety-one thousand offices for the new President of the United States and his Cabinet to distribute amongst their friends. It is safe to assume that the applications for positions will double the places to be filled.

Quebec Province is being organized for the prohibition plebiscite campaign. At a convention held a few days ago at L. Bond as chairman, was appointed, an executive committee, with Major E. This executive has had several meetings since and is as quickly as possible arranging for a thorough canvass of the Province. They propose to raise a fund of not less than \$8,000, all of which will be needed to send speakers to every part of the Province, and to thoroughly distribute prohibition literature.

France is not a little worried by the non-increase of population. There is a law which provides that the seventh living child in every family shall be supported and educated at the public expense.

It is permitted to each state of the Union to place in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington the statues of two citizens eminent in its history. Utah has only recently become a state, but already it has been proposed in that state to put a statue of Brigham Young in the Washington Capitol. It is not likely that it will be permitted.

Prof. Drummond, the well known writer on religious subjects, died on Thursday last. He was still a young man, having been born in 1851. He was the author of the "Natural Law in the Spiritual World," "The Greatest Thing in the World," "Pax Votum" and several other well known books.

The British Government intends to signalize the occasion of the Queen's jubilee by the issue of new coinage.

Miss Eva Booth, who has for some time been in command of the Salvation Army in Canada, was taken suddenly and dangerously ill in Toronto about three weeks ago. Her recovery is thought to be doubtful. Her illness is, probably, the result of overwork.

The government's delegates to Rome have been successful in persuading the Vatican to send somebody to Canada. Mgr. Merrydelval, private secretary to the Pope, has been designated apostolic delegate. It is intimated that he will start for Canada at once; and that the bishops have been requested to suspend all action till he has looked into matters. And now everybody is expected to wait in quietness and patience till the Pope's man has settled Canadian affairs; when he has done it, everybody will be expected to bow

down in thankfulness that there is a Pope who can do these things. And none of us must hint, or even think, that whatever the bishops and the politicians do, as directed by the Pope's representative, will be in the interests of the Papacy. And so it has come to this in CANADA—ROMA IS IMPROVING. How long will Canada stand it?

It is a high compliment to an officer when his opponents, unable to make a charge which would warrant his removal, seek to get him legislated out of office, and fail in that. Inspector Weyman, of Kings Co., has been paid such compliment. The purpose of the bill before the Legislature last week was, without doubt, to remove Mr. Weyman for no other reason than his faithfulness. The bill was not carried as introduced, and, therefore, failed of its purpose. An inspector cannot be dismissed without a two-thirds vote.

The European situation is less threatening than a week ago. It is not now believed that there will be war.

Nova Scotia Foreign Mission Society.

During the session of Free Baptist Conference held at Port Medway in Sept. 1896, among other resolutions adopted, was one to this purpose: That Miss Endora Hilton and Mrs. Norman Jeffery, form a committee to ascertain the cost of mite boxes, and also to provide 200 for distribution among F. B. Churches. Previous to the close of the year this was attended to, and Miss Vanhorn, Sec. of District 5, faithfully attended to her duty in notifying the churches in said District. The 200 have all been disposed of, Caledonia and Port Medway churches being supplied from that number. The committee do not care to order again, unless the churches unprovided wish them to do so; and as there are many churches, and some of them the larger ones too, we would ask pastors, S. S. Supts., and missionary Societies to communicate with either of the committee as soon as possible, so that word from any church wishing the boxes may be received in time for distribution in April. The boxes are bright and pretty, and are readily accepted by children, and by older people too. The cost is one and one-half cents each when received by committee.

Please attend to this matter immediately, as there is now less than the half year for collecting mites; before Conference will meet. The appeal for help from the heathen, and from our missionaries, and the command of our Lord Jesus Christ should not be lightly considered by Christians. The mite box collections if carefully attended to, would largely increase our yearly mission fund.

Mission News and Notes

—Venezuela's 2,200,000 people have only one Protestant missionary.

—Ecuador, larger than Great Britain and Ireland, has no missionary.

—The four millions of Colombia have only three mission stations, all of one denomination.

—When Victor Emanuel entered Rome, a colporteur followed with a few Bibles in a dog cart. Now it is said: "There is no book so widely spread in Italy at the present moment as the Bible, and of all books none finds so many buyers."

—Missions commenced in Lower Egypt in April, 1892, and have, including wives, ten missionaries there. The population of the country is over 7,000,000, that of Lower Egypt four and one-half millions, the great majority being Mohammedans. The American Presbyterians have an excellent and successful work mainly but not exclusively among the Copts. The Church Missionary Society also has work in Cairo. There remains a widespread need for more laborers among the Moslems, who are difficult to reach, and very few of whom have as yet been converted.

—Sir Bartle Frere has recently written for an English periodical an article in which he says: "I speak simply as to matters of observation and not of opinion, and assure you that the teaching of Christianity among one hundred million of civilized and industrious Hindus and Mohammedans is effecting changes—moral, social, and political—which for extent and rapidity of effects are far more extraordinary than anything you or your fathers have witnessed in modern Europe. Presented for the first time to

most of the teeming Indian communities within the memories of men yet alive—preached only by a few scores of Europeans, who had little of worldly power or sagacity, and none of the worldly motives which usually carry men onward to success—Christianity has nevertheless in the course of fifty years made its way to every part of the vast mass of Indian civilized humanity, and is now an active, operative, aggressive power in every branch of social and political life on that continent."

Home Religious News.

—Special meetings are being held in several of the St. John churches, and with good effect. The Salvation Army, also is doing special work.

—In Dorchester, N. B., on Sunday, 7th inst, Rev. C. C. Burgess administered baptism to fourteen converts in the Baptist church.

—Rev. G. O. Gates, of German St. Baptist church, St. John, is mentioned as a possible successor to Rev. Thos. Tratrote Wolfeville, N. S.

Denominational News.

UPPER GAGETOWN, Q. Co.—I am pleased to be able to say that God is still blessing the people in this place, and that sinners are coming to Jesus. Sickness has much retarded the progress of the meetings. There have been two baptisms, and there would have been another but sickness has hindered. Quite a number of the young men are starting in the divine life; it is pleasing to see young men, in the strength of manhood, coming to the Saviour. I have held eighty-three meetings since I came here the first of January. We have organized a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour with seventeen active members. The better grouping of the churches into pastorates would give a portion of care to each and save waste of strength and time. Pray for us that the work may still prosper and God be glorified.

T. O. DEWITT.

March 8: 1897.

WAASIS, S. Co.—I have been holding special meetings here for the past four weeks, with good results; souls are coming to the Saviour and backsliders are coming home. Eleven have expressed their purpose to follow their blessed Lord and Master in the ordinance of baptism. I pray that God will give the dear brothers and sisters great grace, that the rest of their lives may be according to His beginning. Bro. Hartley was to have come and baptize for me, but his illness prevents. We trust some other Brother will be available for this service.

I had a very pleasant visit from Bro. Williams and wife, of Blissville, a short time ago. Bro. Williams is in good spirits, and was very much pleased with our young people's meeting, which he attended. The church is doing good work, the number is increasing, and the Lord is blessing our efforts. We pray that this work which the Master has begun here, may continue and end in Him. Sister Jones of Gordonsville, a good and consistent member of that church, is here on a visit. She attended our Y. P. A. C. F. last evening and was pleased with the promptness of our members in giving testimony.

I am expecting (D. V.) after we get through with our meetings here to go to Or. mocto. We ask the prayers of God's people, that the divine guidance may ever be with us.

CHAS. STIRLING.

March 10th 1897.

GEARY, S. Co.—I would like to contribute a few lines to the denominational news department. I came to Geary on the twentieth February, and on Sunday 21st, commenced holding meetings. The same day brother Allen Stairs (Ref. Bap.), of Temperance Vale, came to my assistance. The longer we laboured together the better I liked him. God has abundantly blessed our labours; some that have been on the back ground for years have been restored and brought into fellowship with God and with each other, and last Sabbath it was my privilege to baptize six converts—five young men and one young woman, on confession of their faith in Christ.

I expect, (D. V.) to baptize a number more next Sabbath. There seems to be a great moving among the people; the work is reaching other communities around here, and people are coming from afar to the meetings. The people of Geary are looking up to God in a way that they have not done in the past, and it is evident they are going to see better days than for many years. Brother Stairs expects to leave for his home on Monday next, but thinks to return soon. God helping me, it is my intention to continue