

TERMS AND NOTICES

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. Joseph McLeod, D. D., Editor.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27TH, 1897.

Thanksgiving day is announced November 25th.

The facts set forth in Miss Wile's letter are a loud call for help, in men and women and money, for the India work.

The Intelligencer wants news of the churches and christian work from all parts of its field. Will the brethren be good enough to keep it well supplied?

The union of two Methodist bodies in England—the Primitive Methodists and the Bible Christians—is being agitated. Their union, it is believed, will be an economy of christian forces and increased effectiveness.

The leakage from the Anglican church to the Roman is much greater than many Anglicans care to admit. And yet the extent of the movement is not surprising. People who have been conducted by their own teachers along nine-tenths of the road to Rome very naturally ask themselves especially if they are of logical mind, why they should not finish the journey.

We see it stated that the minimum salary in the Presbyterian Church in Canada is now \$775, and a manse. Of course there are many churches and groups of churches that cannot pay this amount; but whatever is lacking is made up from the augmentation fund. Our Presbyterian brethren have done admirably in this respect. Other denominations would do well to follow their example.

At a recent session of the Methodist Conference of Wisconsin a resolution was adopted declaring that the officers of the churches are under obligation to subscribe for the denominational paper. Commenting on the fact, the Northwestern Advocate says: "That church is imposed upon which has an office-bearer who does not read about that which God does in and for the church. No man is sufficiently talented to extemporize his facts. No leader can lead who is ignorant of the spirit and progress and opinions and devices of his fellow leaders. The non-reading official is in the rear, and he ministers to keeping the people in the rear. It is insufferable and harmful assumption to claim that any non-reading official deserves his position. Bright young people plainly see that he is in the rear. We don't not that many open-minded youth lose respect for a church that accepts unintelligent leaders."

And yet we think it would not be difficult to find, in all the denominations, a good many officers of churches who never see their church paper except in the home of a neighbour.

Rev. Elias Keirstead, one of the oldest Baptist ministers—perhaps the oldest, in the Maritime Provinces, died at Collins, Kings Co., on the 16th inst. He was 90 years old. During late years he had not been able to do much active work. For many years he was a very useful minister. Most of his labour was in Kings and Queens Counties, though he preached occasionally in other parts of the Province; at one period of his life he preached two years in York Co. His home was near Free Baptist churches, and he often preached for our people, and was on terms of close fellowship with them. He was closely associated with the late Rev. E. Weyman and others of our ministers of the earlier years. He was highly esteemed, not only by his own denomination but by members of other branches of the Church of Christ. Rev. Dr. Keirstead, of Acadia University, is his son. To his family he has left the heritage of a good name and a pious example, and to the church and the world the fruits of faithful christian service.

In the Sunday School Association, in session in St. John last week, a resolution of sympathy with the sufferers by the Windsor fire was introduced and passed. The preamble said, "Whereas, the people of Windsor, N. S. have been visited by one of those providential happenings which try the reins of the children of men;" &c.

Rev. Job Shenton questioned the wisdom of the term "providential happening," and asked, "If a drunken man throws a match and causes a fire is that providential?"

The meeting was not disposed to give time to the consideration of the question, and put the resolution through without change in the phraseology. And when Mr. Shenton again objected to the phrase his objection received no consideration, the chairman pressing on the next order of business. It is strange that a body of thoughtful christian men and women should adopt a resolution which, in effect, declares the divine responsibility for the terrible calamity which came upon Windsor. In the haste of writing resolutions the phraseology may sometimes be less careful than it should be; but in this case, attention having been directed to it, the use of the objectionable phrase cannot be attributed to inadvertence. It is not easy to understand the unwillingness to even consider a change of the misrepresenting words. We are not living in a time when everything which is attributed to God. And it, certainly, is not well for any body of christians to even seem to declare Him responsible for what, probably, originated in some vicious mind.

Trust Him.

How often christian people become discouraged. Their prayers are not answered in the way they desire, or disappointments and sorrows befall them, and they lose heart and think God has forgotten them. Instead of being exercised with inquiries as to God's reasons for delaying answers to prayers, or the purpose of permitted burdens and pains, they are filled with murmurings against their lot, and desire only deliverance from the present distress.

This is indication of lack of faith. And without faith in God how dreary and helpless life is. A christian has reason to believe that he is the object of God's special care. He has a right to think of his Father in Heaven as always concerned for everyone of his children. Though he may not always understand God's ways, he may, and ought, always believe that the divine wisdom and power are at work in behalf of those who, in faith and obedience, commit themselves to God's keeping. The divine counsels may, and often are, hidden, but the trusting soul rests in the assurance: "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

M.

After Conference Notes.

That portion of the report of the Education committee looking towards a better arrangement for theological training, will probably result in something definite after a while. The committees of the N. B. and N. S. Conferences will, doubtless give careful consideration to the question and make a recommendation.

The attitude of the Conference towards the INTELLIGENCER is, of course, gratifying to the management of the paper. Originated in the interest of the cause of Christ, especially as represented by the Free Baptist church in these provinces, it has for nearly forty-five years sought to be faithful in its mission. The only Free Baptist paper in Canada, the Conference feels that it should reach, as nearly as possible, and regularly visit every Free Baptist home in the country. To accomplish this an extensive and expensive canvass is necessary. Instead of requiring the paper to assume the expense of such canvass, the Conference has resolved to undertake the work of introducing it to the hundreds of Free Baptists homes to which it does not go. The brethren evidently believe that this is an important part of home mission work, and that the expenditure in this way will yield satisfactory results. We trust their expectations may be fully realized. The INTELLIGENCER will do its utmost to help realize them.

The resolution to ask the Legislature to amend the several acts incorporating the Conference that its corporate name shall be The Free Baptist General Conference of New Brunswick, was with most hearty unanimity in both the Ministers' Conference and the General Conference. The thought of having this done is not a new one. For a number of years it has been regarded as the proper thing to do. That no steps have been taken to have

it done has been due, chiefly, to the feeling that any time would do. For many years we have been known, to other denominations as the Free Baptist denomination, and have spoken and written of ourselves as such.

In legal documents and notices it is necessary to use the word "Christian", otherwise the corporate name is rarely used. The Conferences of churches of like faith in the United States and in Nova Scotia, and with which our Conference has the closest relations, bear only the name Free Baptist. Where there is uniformity of creed and polity, it is desirable that there be, also, the same name.

There are, of course, other reasons, among them the fact that the word which it is proposed to remove is superfluous in the name of a christian denomination, and may be regarded as an implied reflection on other denominations.

We would rather not refer to it, but we think it necessary to say that it is very regrettable that so many members of Conference, including some ministers, leave before the close of the session. They come to Conference intending to leave when the session is about half through, indeed some of them do not stay even that long. Except in a case of extreme necessity no member should leave Conference till it closes. The brethren who accept appointment as delegates should do so with the understanding that they are expected to attend from the beginning to the end of Conference. If they cannot do that, they should say so, and let others be appointed who can attend the whole session. The ministers owe it to themselves and the cause to set a good example to the lay members in this matter.

It may be urged that the Conference work was all done, and well done, and that the absence of this or that member did not make any difference. While not denying that the Conference gave attention to all the matters that came before it—which were, perhaps, all the matters that should have come before it, we do believe that some questions should have had more careful and thorough treatment. For instance, a resolution of the session of 1896 directed that "the reports of the Corresponding Secretaries for Home and Foreign Missions be read and discussed in regular business session," and not merely in the usual public missionary meeting. So far as we know this was not done, the only consideration these branches of work received being the speeches—and they were good ones made by brethren Smith, Clarke, Kerstead and Patterson in moving and seconding the adoption of the reports of the Secretaries. There were, also, statements in the report of the Corresponding Secretary of Conference which required the careful and patient attention of Conference. So far as we are able to judge, the only reason why these and, possible, other matters did not get more attention was the desire of so many members to be able to leave for home Wednesday morning.

Our reference to these things is not to complain of the members of Conference, or any number of them, but to emphasize to all concerned the importance of attending Conference unhampered by engagements which require them to leave before the business is all done and thoroughly done.

The spirit of christian harmony was very marked in the Conference. Brethren differed on various questions—as is always the case where there are thinking and independent men, and they expressed their differing views clearly and emphatically, but they differed like christians. There was no sign in any of the discussions of conflict of interest or feeling, but, instead, a manifest unity of spirit and purpose.

POLITICAL NEWS.—Dr. Fiset, M. P. for Rimouski, has been called to the Senate. There are now three vacancies for the Commons: Temiscouata, Drummond and Arthabaska, and Rimouski.

The Speaker of the Commons says there is talk of Parliament meeting about the middle of January.

The writs for Drummond and Arthabaska, for Temiscouata, and Rimouski have been issued. The election takes place in all three on Nov. 13 and nominations a week earlier.

MADE HIS WAY.—The Archbishop of Canterbury remarked at the recent Church Congress that he had to make his living after he was 17 years of age. He had known what it was to do without a fire because he could not afford it, and to wear patched clothes and boots. He plowed in the field and threshed with a flail. He urged on working people to practise economy and total abstinence from strong drink.

Notes on Current Events.

The election of the first Mayor and other officers of Greater New York has become a very exciting contest, which is watched with much interest by people everywhere. The first Mayoralty candidate in the field was Mr. Seth Low, the nominee of a Citizens League which desires good government and freedom from party dictation. The Republicans have a candidate, Gen. Tracey; the National Democrats have put Henry George, the Single-tax apostle, in the field; and Tammany has nominated Judge Van Wyck. The nomination of Gen. Tracey weakens Mr. Low's chances, and gives Tammany a chance to win. The fight is, probably, between Low and Van Wyck. Every body who desires the good government of the new and enlarged city rather than the triumph of a party, will hope for the election of Mr. Low.

The present Czar has shown a friendlier spirit towards Poland than his father. On a recent visit to Warsaw he was received with popular demonstrations of pleasure. It has recently come out, however, that there was a dangerous plot against his life, which the police discovered just in time to prevent its success. Over one hundred persons were arrested, and others are under police surveillance.

A claim of indemnity for false imprisonment is pending before the New York State Board of Claims. It is the first case of the kind ever brought before the Court, and is being watched with considerable interest. In 1876 a J. Roberts was accused of burglary, was found guilty and sentenced to 20 years in Sing-Sing Prison. After he had been nearly two years in prison his innocence was conclusively proven, whereupon a pardon was granted by the Governor. Mr. Roberts is now fifty years old, and completely broken in health as a result of his arrest and imprisonment. Such a case surely demands indemnity. It would seem, too, that there ought to be some way of delivering an innocent man from prison other than by pardoning. Why pardon a man who has been guilty of no crime? The law is sometimes most unreasonable and cruel.

It is stated on good authority that Mark Twain gets \$40,000 for his latest book. This amount he turns over to his creditors, which will reduce his liabilities to \$20,000. He has a liberal offer for a series of readings from his books, which will enable him to pay off the balance of debt. The genial Mark has universal sympathy in his efforts to regain pecuniary independence.

Switzerland owns her telegraph system. The National Council has recently adopted a bill providing the purchase of the five principal railroads of that country, at a cost of about \$200,000,000. Whether the people will endorse this scheme remains to be seen.

Already preparations are being made for the coronation of the young Queen of Holland, which will take place next September.

It is announced from the Colonial office that a medal is to be issued to all the volunteers who participated in the resistance of the Fenian raid in Canada in 1866, and in the Northwest expedition in 1870.

The revolting tribesmen on the India frontier are making a determined resistance to the British forces sent for their subjugation, but are being driven from their strongholds.

The Windsor fire was quite as destructive as the first reports said. The town was nearly obliterated. Two persons—a Mr. and Mrs. Kelley—were burned to death. The insurance, which is being promptly paid, was about one-third of the loss. Contributions of money, food, clothing etc. for the relief of the destitute have gone from all over the Maritime Provinces, and from some places West. Business is being resumed in temporary quarters; building will go on quickly, and a good many will be housed before winter has fairly set in. It is now believed that the fire was of incendiary origin, and three arrests have been made, the names of the arrested men being McIntyre, Fletcher and Croxon. Whether the fire was of design or not, it seems clear enough that it was by either the carelessness or viciousness of one or more rum drinking fellows.

India officials, acknowledging the final statement of the Canadian contributions to the India famine fund, state that outside of Great Britain and India, Canada was the largest contributor.

It is reported that the Papal decision in the Manitoba Schools case will approve the arrangement made between the Dominion and Manitoba governments.

George M. Pullman, the inventor of the sleeping and parlour cars which bear his name, died suddenly last week. He was not yet seventy years of age. His sleeping car idea brought him great wealth.

The tenth convention of the Dominion Woman's Christian Temperance Union met in Toronto on Wednesday last. The reports presented showed that there are in Canada 445 Unions, with a membership of 10,101, an increase of over 1,700 in the year. The largest percentage of increase during the year was by the New Brunswick Union. The membership by provinces is Ontario, 5,110; Quebec, 2,034; Nova Scotia, 786; New Brunswick, 766; Manitoba, 579; British Columbia, 300; North West Territories, 142, and Prince Edward Island, 242.

Mr. W. C. Anslow, editor and proprietor of the Newcastle 'Advocate' mysteriously disappeared on the 14th, inst. Accompanied by his son he went partridge hunting; they got separated; the son at noon went to the house, from which they started in the morning, expecting to find his father there. He was not there. He was searched for in the afternoon, but was not found. Every day since then there have been searching parties out, but up to yesterday there had not been found the slightest clue. There is no trace of anything belonging to him. Mr. Anslow was about 60 years of age, and a healthy and vigorous man for his years. He had been thirty years conducting the 'Advocate'. A strong temperance man, he had done much to advance the cause of abstinence and prohibition. A good and useful citizen, he had many warm friends.

Some of the papers have mentioned, with commendation, what they call "one of the handsomest contributions" to the Windsor Fire Relief Fund, a cheque for \$500 from "Mayor Walker of the Ontario town of Waterville." They did not mention, perhaps did not remember, that Walkerville is a town which owes its existence to whiskey making, and that Mayor Walker is presumably one of the whiskey making concern. There is nothing particularly "handsome" in a gift of \$500 or any other amount from a whiskey maker at any time, for every dollar of it is the price of misery somewhere; it seems especially "unhandsome" when the suffering it imperitently seeks to relieve is traceable to a whiskey drinking and whiskey demoralized creature. And yet many people allow themselves to be hoodwinked by the hypocritical show of generosity made by a traffic which fattens by the robbery and destruction of the people.

India Letter from Miss Wile.

DEAR FRIENDS.—I have time for but a brief letter before the mail goes out, and in it I want to voice our great need of help here.

Since my arrival in this country, less than four years ago, eight members of the missionary force have gone to the home land, and no new worker has come to take up the burdens so reluctantly laid down. In view of the many workers at home, and the great need here, does this not seem unspeakably sad? Do you wonder that our hearts sometimes lose courage? Is it strange that the ones now in the field, those who have been here the longest, are on the point of breaking down? Does any one imagine that this manner of conducting mission work is an economical method? If such an one be in our midst let him figure it out, and I know the result will justify my saying that a more costly course could not be pursued.

Then, O my friends, think of this wide, populous field entrusted to our denomination, and the great area in it never even traversed by our force. Large cities and towns abound in which the name of Christ has never been preached. How can the message be sent unless some one be sent to carry it? Verily, "there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

Is there not someone in N. B. or N. S. who is holding himself back? Be assured that poverty of soul will be the portion of such an one.

Could you be with us one short day I am sure many of you would change your views regarding Foreign Mission polity. To take the very grave responsibility of sending the gospel to so many people needs an almost perfect system at home. When will systematic giving become established? When are the laborers to be forthcoming, and from where? Do send us help and send quickly.

This may not be the first intimation

you have had that Mr. and Mrs. Hallam are on their homeward journey. He was the best linguist in the mission, and the Principal of the Bible School, while Mrs. Hallam was much interested in work among the women.

We try to keep up a brave front, and we do realize God's wonderful care for us, in saving us from the plague, earthquake and riots. Of course we had the shock of the earthquake, but no lives were lost here, and no property destroyed. As yet no one has died of starvation in our vicinity, though the distress and suffering are indescribable, and we are fearing short crops again this year. Still God is always more merciful than our fears.

Yours faithfully,
EDNA C. WILE.

Lalgah P. O., Midnapore Dis.,
Bhupore, India.
Aug. 30th, 1897.

General Religious News.

—In the United States there is one minister to every 700 people.

—In China there is one ordained minister to every 1,000,000.

—Out of every 100,000 Church members in America only 21 go to the foreign land.

—For forty years, on every week day, holidays included, the Fulton Street Daily Noon Prayer-meeting has been held. Its fortieth anniversary was observed on Sept. 23.

—Last year 1,469 Bibles were given by the Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work to young people for committing to memory and reciting the Shorter Catechism.

—Andrew Spence, the bicycle missionary, has his wheel rigged with various paraphernalia, and it weighs seventy pounds. He has rigged it with a sail, and gets considerable aid from the wind when it happens to be blowing just right. The Ten Commandments are printed on the sail, and the masts and yardarms are used for the display of religious charts. These charts, according to Spence, show when time will end, and what will be the signs portending the annihilation of the unrighteous and the redemption and reward of the holy. He is a Canadian, sixty-three years of age, but since 1884 he has made California his home. He has already covered about 500 miles on his wheel.

Home Religious News.

—Rev. M. Addison (Baptist) has resigned the Salisbury pastorate, intending to take a theological course at McMaster.

—Three Episcopal churches—one each at Four Falls, Andover, and Glenburne—all in Victoria Co., were consecrated last week by bishop Kingdon.

—The Annual meeting of the N. B. Sunday School Association, held in St. John last week, was a session of great interest. There were 323 credentialled members present. The report of Rev. A. Lucas, Field Secretary, said that S. S. work in the Province was never in such a condition of strength as now. According to the Treasurer's report the receipts for the year were \$2,658.10, and the Expenditures \$2,656.42.

The first report of the Normal Department was made this year, and diplomas awarded. About 1000 persons were studying the Normal work. Of those who stood the examination, only six failed, and they by only a few marks. Thirteen passed with honors. The following are the names of those receiving diplomas:

Honor graduates, over 90 per cent.—Rev. Wm. C. Matthews, E. V. Buchanan, Bessie G. Thompson, Estelle Vaughan, E. R. Machum, Mrs. G. O. Gates, M. Louise D'Orsay, G. W. Hamilton, Ethel May Young, Annie L. Brewer, M. Louise Lingley, A. S. McFarlane, F. Newton Smith, M. D.

Graduates—Over 70 per cent.—May Kelley, Grace Hubby, A. M. Friars, Rev. A. M. Hubby, Georgia F. McAdam, Agnes E. Lucas, Rev. Wm. A. Thompson, A. W. Macchum, Elspeth E. Doherty, Lizzie McDonald, Bessie M. Kitts, Elizabeth A. Duke, W. E. McMullen, Bertie Harding, Mrs. T. S. Simms, Charles W. Fowler, Mrs. Emma C. Stevens, John E. Porter, Mrs. F. W. Manning, Allan Rideout, Charles M. Lingley, Lilly Dunphy, Jessie M. Kinney, Mrs. H. F. Dunphy, Beatrice E. Duke, Mary G. Gunn, May Holt, R. Duncan Smith, Wm. C. Cross, Emma Heffer, Gertrude L. Carnall, M. S. Whitman, Irene E. Steeves, John T. Reid, Ella Colter, Minnie L. N. Doherty, Eliza B. Miller, George Jenkins, L. C. MacKendrick, G. S. Wall, Helen S. Marshall, Frances W. Turner, T. S. Simms, Josephine Betts, Mrs. F. Newton Smith, D. J. Fowler, Charles R. Racine, Lizzie M. Keirstead, Thomas Young.

The presence and addresses of Prof. Hamill, Mr. Lawrence of Ohio, and