

TERMS AND NOTICES

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When it is desired to discontinue the INTELLIGENCER, it is necessary to pay whatever is due, and notify us by letter or post card. Returning the paper is neither courteous nor sufficient.

Payment of subscriptions may be made to any Free Baptist minister in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and to any authorized agent as well as to the proprietor at Fredericton.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Box 375, Fredericton N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15TH, 1897.

The late Earl of Shaftesbury did not overstate the case when he said, "It has been in the power of those who hold the truth, having means, knowledge and opportunity enough, to have evangelized the globe fifty times over."

Does 'misery love company'? If so, those preachers who are made wretched by vain struggles to make ends meet on meagre salaries and who think the ministers of all other denominations are better provided for, especially those of the established church, may get some comfort from the fact that in Great Britain the poorest paid minister is the average Episcopalian.

A western town, with a population of seven hundred, has thirteen churches, every one of which is, of course, having a struggle for existence. There ought to be the exercise of some sense in the establishment and management of churches; but there was precious little of it shown in that town. It will be a good time—a time of the reign of christian love and sound judgment—when the denominations will agree to not spend their energies in competitions with each other.

The story is told of a Boston curate, with high church proclivities, who recently attended, by invitation, a wedding in a Congregational church. He was taken to task for going there. He admitted that it was a serious thing, but he said he had guarded, so far as possible, against any evil "by crossing himself" before entering the church. Poor fellow! A Boston paper, telling the story, expresses the hope that, if there was any merit in the "crossing," that he did it on his head, as that is doubtless the place where he most needs help.

Speaking of British rule in India, the Christian Register, of Boston, says some true things, which are the more pleasant reading because so rarely found in the press of our neighbours. It says:

By comparison with anything that could take its place, there is no rule on earth more beneficent than that of the English in India. Perhaps no other existing government is so largely based on moral force. The Englishman relies much upon his guns; but, where he is so vastly outnumbered, these would hardly protect him for a single instant, were it not for the capacity and integrity that give him a tremendous power of leadership over the native mind. Indeed, he stands in the East to-day an example to all the world of what can be done by the type of man who loves justice and order, and whose word is as good as his bond.

What are your children reading? is a question that may be asked of all parents. Mr. Comstock, the faithful and heroic agent of the society for the prevention of vice tells one incident, of recent occurrence, which shows how the work of corrupting the youth is carried on. He says that getting on the rear platform of a train, he found himself among some young students. He saw one of them hand another a leaflet, and, from the sheepish air with which it was received he made up his mind that there was something wrong. He asked to see it, and his apprehensions were justified. From those young men he gathered up six or eight varieties of the most deadly and defiling books. He went with these students to their school, and found that every boy in that school except one had seen the books. Then he questioned the girls, most of them under 18, and found that every one of them had read the same deadly poison. Probing the matter deeper, he dis-

covered that a young lady, moving in the best circles, was the person who had been used to corrupt so many young people.

From a note among the items of home religious news it will be learned that our Church of England brethren are pushing their Home Mission work with a good deal of vigour. Any one familiar with the earlier religious history of the Province, and who is, also, observant of what is now going on, sees that the Church of England is making headway — is recovering ground lost some years ago, and is establishing itself in new fields. The energy which is being put into the work is, certainly, praiseworthy. We are making note of the fact, however, principally, because of its suggestiveness. So long as the church depended on grants from England it did not even hold its own. So soon as there was intimation that the grants would be reduced, and finally withdrawn, the church began to adapt itself to the new condition, and to endeavour to do for itself what it had long permitted others to do for it. The benefits of self-reliance, even in part, were soon seen. And they have increased as the church has realized the demands upon it and has set itself to meet those demands.

The Intelligencer for 1898.

Two issues after this will complete another year—the forty-fifth of the INTELLIGENCER's life.

Perhaps some readers are expecting an announcement for the new year, now so near.

We have wondered whether any announcement is necessary. A paper which has gone on, with unvarying regularity, for forty-five years may be expected to go on another year—and many more years.

Neither does it seem necessary to announce what its character will be, nor to set forth in detail what it will do, in the next year.

What it has been, in character and purpose, it will continue to be; the kind of work it has done it will continue to do. The various departments will receive careful attention. The editorial notes on current events have received much commendation.

It is our purpose to keep INTELLIGENCER readers informed on all matters of public interest. They will be given the facts, and their meaning, without having to wade through a mass of more or less confusing and misleading matter.

The religious and moral questions of the day will be fully treated. The INTELLIGENCER is set for the promotion of religion and of moral reform.

It will be the aim to make the INTELLIGENCER in 1898 better than in any preceding year.

A FREE BAPTIST PAPER.

Interested in all that concerns the Church of Christ, in any and all of its branches, the INTELLIGENCER is especially the organ of the Free Baptists of Canada. Born in the heart of a Free Baptist, conducted always by a Free Baptist, the advocate of Free Baptist doctrines and interests, recognized as the official organ of the Free Baptist Conferences of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, its life and success are identified with the life of the Free Baptist denomination.

It desires to be a regular visitor to every Free Baptist home in Canada. Every year Conferences commend it to the people. And the testimony of pastors is that the churches which most read the INTELLIGENCER have most sympathy with the general work of the denomination and give the work the readiest and best support.

No other paper can make up in a Free Baptist home for the absence of the INTELLIGENCER.

There never was a time when our people needed their paper more than now.

CO-OPERATION DESIRED.

Most earnestly we desire the co-operation of all our people in this branch of the work.

The ministers especially have opportunities to extend the circulation of the INTELLIGENCER. They can, also, do much in securing prompt renewals from present subscribers. We earnestly seek their help in both these ways.

Make a note of the following, and act promptly:

1. Those whose subscriptions have

expired or expire this month can help much by immediate renewals for 1898.

2. Subscribers who are in arrears cannot do us greater good than to pay at once. They should, also, send 1898 renewals.

3. Any subscriber sending his subscription for 1898, who sends also a NEW SUBSCRIBER, can pay for both with \$2.50.

3. We will be glad if each present subscriber will say a word in behalf of the INTELLIGENCER to some neighbour or friend, and solicit a subscription.

4. The ministers can help the paper much by speaking to their people, both publicly and privately, soliciting immediate renewals and new subscribers.

5. The new announcement of the Bible premium, on another page, will, we think, interest many.

OUR HOPE.

We hope to retain for 1898 all present subscribers;

to increase the number by at least fifty per cent;

to have the hearty co-operation of every one interested in the life and work of the denomination;

TO HAVE OUR RENEWAL immediately;

to have a NEW SUBSCRIBER with your renewal if it is at all possible for you to get one;

to receive more renewals and new subscribers between now and the new year than in any December in the history of the INTELLIGENCER.

"WE ARE LABOURERS TOGETHER."

About Christmas Presents

In another column one of our contributors suggests to the churches to remember their pastors at Christmas. The suggestion is a good one, and we hope will be acted upon very generally.

Christmas has come to be the great present-making time. There is reason to fear that the custom is overdone, and that it has lost much of the simple heartiness that should characterize it. It is too much a time of exchange, rather than of the expression, in gifts, of loving thoughts and good wishes. These few hints may help:

1. Do not be extravagant. There is a great temptation to extravagance due, in part, to the desire to make a fine present, and, in part, to the great variety of very attractive and very expensive articles spread before the purchasers of presents. Simple and inexpensive gifts are quite as much appreciated as costly ones. The members of our families and our friends do not judge our love by the costliness of our gifts. Let us all resist the temptation to be extravagant.

2. Make suitable presents. A gilt-edge book to some one who is more in need of a turkey or a roast of beef or a barrel of vegetables, or a warm quilt or blanket, is an unsuitable and foolish gift. You may think it would be nice to see your minister swinging a gold-headed cane; but you will probably be doing him more good by giving him books, or, what is better, the money with which to buy them—for he can, probably, make a better selection than anyone can make for him. In some cases a barrel of flour, or a quarter of beef, or a bin full of oats, or a ton of hay would be even more timely than either cane or books.

3. Do not confine gift-making to your own family, or even to the small circle of your intimate and much esteemed friends. Remember those who most need ministries of love—the alone, the old, the sick, the poor, not only those who are worthy but those, also, who are unworthy—those who sometimes feel, and with reason, "no man careth for us." Make them glad who will have no gladness unless you are the minister of gladness to them. Make them think of the babe of Bethlehem, and the significance of his birth, who will not think of Him unless you remind them of Him by your gift and service of love.

4. The church of Jesus Christ should not be forgotten in the Christmas gift-making. The birth of Him whose church it is and whose name it bears is being celebrated. To say nothing of all that the Church has been to and done in the world, thought of the inestimable personal blessings enjoyed because of His advent, and through the instrumentality of His church, may well move every one to make an offering of gratitude and love. The Church stands for Christ, and to forward His Kingdom. Help to any arm of the church a present to the local church work, to the Sabbath School, to home or foreign missions, to the fund for aged and infirm ministers, to the branch or branches of the work which seem to be most in need will surely, be an offering acceptable to our Lord.

Notes on Current Events.

The Northwest Legislature, in session at Regina, last week passed a bill to incorporate "the President and High Council of Alberta stake of Lion being duly organized a stake church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day saints." Some of the members objected to establishing the Mormons in Canada, but there was a majority in favour of the bill, and it passed. This is the Mormon community to which we referred last week, though we then knew nothing of the incorporation now announced. That they have a pretty firm foothold is evident. Their votes count with the politicians. Again we say, the Mormon community needs careful watching.

The Dr. Worcester, of Waltham, Mass., who was mentioned last week as advocating Lady Aberdeen's Order of Nurses' scheme at a meeting of Toronto doctors, is evidently making a tour of Ontario in the same interest. He is reported as talking up the scheme at Hamilton. He may be making the doctors and other people see it their duty to support the scheme, but there are no signs of enthusiasm. Whatever merits the scheme may have the manner of introducing and advocating it has not been particularly wise.

The report of the Ontario Bureau of Industries has just been issued. It contains a mass of statistical information. The following are some of the figures and comparisons:

The number of cheese factories operated in the province in 1896 is given at 1,147, as against 1,164 in 1895. The amount of cheese manufactured was 104,393,985 lbs., as against 100,230,340 lbs., in the preceding year.

Fifty-nine creameries were in operation, turning out 2,768,193 lbs. of butter, as against 2,192,726 lbs. made by fifty-three factories in 1895.

The table of comparative values of farm lands, buildings, implements and lives ock for the past fourteen years is of exceptional interest. The values of farm lands show a steady decrease from \$640,480,801 in 1888 to \$557,468,270 in 1896. The values in 1895 are given as \$572,938,472. Total values of buildings show an increase amounting to \$205,235,429 in 1896, as against \$204,148,670 in 1895. Values of implements show a slight increase, while live stock has decreased from \$103,958,047 in 1895, to \$96,855,358 in 1896.

The Pope's health is not good. His physician has adopted special precautions against the weather. He has rheumatic trouble, which is aggravated by the slightest exposure. Certain ceremonies which were being arranged to take place in celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of his priesthood have been abandoned.

A journey of sixteen hundred miles through England and Scotland on a motor car was completed recently. The Englishman who made the journey was five weeks on the road, and his motor consumed one hundred and fourteen gallons of oil, making his travelling cost one and a half cents a mile. The good roads of "the old country" made the cost much less than it would be on the average roads in Canada or the United States.

Money is being solicited in the Province of Quebec in aid of the Catholic schools established in Manitoba by Archbishop Langevin. A letter is being distributed in which it is stated that the Pope approves and has blessed the schools and commends them as worthy the support of all Catholics. As an inducement to liberal contributions, Archbishop Langevin offers forty days indulgence to every contributor. He says the Pope has authorized him to offer the indulgences. A fine system, surely.

The state of Connecticut has amended its constitution making it obligatory upon every voter in the state to be able to read, in the English language, any article of the state constitution or any clause of any of the statutes of the state. This is, certainly, a step in the right direction. The N. Y. "Advocate" well says,—"No one is fit for free government who will not take the pains to learn to read. Any man of sense under sixty years of age, can learn to read in three months by taking only the time that he habitually wastes, and many could do it by taking half the time they spend in idleness or dissipation."

It is stated that one London firm of tourist agents, Cook and Son, have already contracted for 4000 beds in Vancouver hotels, during February, for men on their way to the Klondike. This is one indication of what the spring rush to the new gold fields is likely to be. For the great majority

of those who go it will be a worse than foolish venture. Mr. Wm. Ogilvie, a surveyor of the Department of the Interior, has recently returned from a two years absence in the Yukon region. In Ottawa, the other day, he said if one hundred thousand persons go to the Klondike next spring, eighty-five per cent., and that is giving it a wide margin, will have to come out. He does not think there will be a railroad in before 1899. Speaking of the influences that a young man is surrounded by in the Klondike, Mr. Ogilvie says they are of the worst. There is simply no restraining influences, one loses touch with the entire outside world.

The good crops and high prices of this year have helped the farmers of the Western States, as it has helped our western farmers. Kansas farmers have, it is said, been placed in a novel relation to the mortgage companies whose debtors they have been. So many are paying off their mortgages with the cash made plentiful by the high prices of wheat that the companies are actually resisting payment by legal devices. The situation is illustrated by a story of a farmer who drew a gun on a bank cashier and forced him to accept payment. The farmers are now required to make affidavit that the money tendered is the bona-fide yield of the land. The clause in mortgages which the companies thus employ to retard payment was originally intended to prevent the companies from injuring each other by taking over mortgages at cut rates.

A London despatch says that Hon. Mr. Dobell, now on his way home from England, brings a report to the government that Mr. Peterson, who undertook the fast steamship line negotiations, has not succeeded.

Late word from Rome confirms what has been several times intimated in the last two or three years, that there is a marked falling off in the Peter's Pence, which constitutes the principal source of the Papal revenues. An effort is to be made to keep the duty and the opportunity of contributing constantly before the people. It is proposed at the Vatican to cause to be placed in every Catholic church throughout the world, a statue of St. Peter, together with an alms box and appropriate inscription for the collection of Peter's Pence.

It became known last week that Mrs. Josephine Butler, of England, Superintendent of the social purity department of the World's W. C. T. Union, had resigned her office because the Union had not unequivocally pronounced against the position taken by Lady Somerset, Vice President of the Union, relative to the social vice in India, which position Mrs. Butler regards as "an extreme form of the regulation of vice." It will be remembered that the matter was considered at the World's Union meeting in Toronto, in October last. And while there was evidently very strong objection to the position taken by Lady Somerset, there was an unwillingness to express condemnation in as strong and definite terms as seemed necessary, in the judgment of many. Mrs. Butler, who has devoted many years to social purity work, feels that the Union's way of dealing with the matter is not at all what it demanded, and that it must largely neutralize the Union's endeavours in behalf of social purity. We think the Union made it clear that it would not consent to any form of license of vice. But certain of the leaders seemed altogether too fearful of putting on record anything which Lady Somerset might not like.

The trouble in the Royal Scots of Montreal, caused by the dismissal of Col. Strath, continues and increases. A large number of officers and men have sent in their resignations.

The Young People's Societies of the Toronto churches are likely to make themselves felt in the municipal election. Committees of the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian societies have conferred, and are now seeking the cooperation of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Young people's societies.

It is not surprising that the proposed closing of the mines at Cow Bay and Victoria, Cape Breton, has created much excitement and called forth expressions of strongest condemnation of the Dominion Coal Company. When the Cape Breton mines were being handed over to the Company, the Nova Scotia government and Legislature were warned of the dangerous character of the legislation they were putting through. Among those who foresaw the danger were Prof. Russell M. P. and Dr. Weldon ex M. P. It is doubtful, though, if even they believed it possible for any Company to

be guilty of so heartless a thing as now threatened. A thousand people are to be literally starved out; they must forsake their homes, their churches, their schools, everything which their industry and thrift have created, and which represent sentiments and experiences the most precious and tender. It cannot be claimed that the mines are not capable of being profitably worked; the companies which managed them before the alien Company came into possession made good profits while their employees received comfortable wages. Appeals have been made to the Company to continue work at the mines, but so far there is no sign of a change of policy. It seems to be understood that so far as the law is concerned there is no redress. The Legislature made the sad blunder of giving the Company the right to do the cruel thing it means to do. The "Presbyterian Witness," Halifax, which takes strong ground against the heartless transaction, and has earnestly appealed to the Company for humane treatment of a community of good citizens, says, in its latest reference to the matter:

There are, it seems to us, three courses open before the company and the province: (1.) Let work go on at the mines with such methods and on such a scale as shall ensure success. If this may not be then either of two courses remains, (2.) Let the Company sell the Cow Bay Mining property to the government of Nova Scotia on equitable terms to be decided by arbitrators, or (3.) Let the government make an adequate grant to the property holders of Cow Bay to cover loss caused by the company's course of conduct.

One thing is impossible; the people of Cow Bay and the other mines now threatened must not be left to endure unaided the destruction which is coming upon them. If the company carry out its threat, if there is no help, no hope, no mercy, then it is certain that the Legislature of Nova Scotia must do the thing that is right, and thus show due repentance for its own guilty improvidence.

Voices and Echoes.

Jesus would not permit himself to be made a tool in the dirty hands of men who wanted a minister to their lusts and worldly ambitions.—Baptist Argus.

Some of those who are called His servants would do well to follow a little more closely in His steps in this respect.

It will not pay to let your subscription run behind, and then when you finally pay it, to fall out with the publisher because the amount is so large.—Herald.

That is just what some people are said to do, except that some never pay. Strange as it may seem, we have heard of some who received a religious paper for years, read it with much apparent interest, and said they enjoyed it, but were annoyed and even indignant when it was intimated to them that a payment would be acceptable to the publisher and help him keep the paper going. They were said to be very good people, too. Strange, isn't it?

An unique method was adopted by the members of a colored church in South Georgia the other day to raise funds. They had a ginger cake eating contest, having two cakes eighteen inches long and the person eating his cake in the shortest time was declared the winner. An admission fee was charged, resulting in a good sum.—Exchange.

Probably the reader has laughed as he read. But what is there more absurd or objectionable in the cake-eating contest than in many of the things resorted to by some white people to raise money for church purposes?

Mr. Haverson reminded the Government that the trade he represented would not respect the law if Prohibition came into force. He said it would cost half a million dollars annually to enforce the law.—Nat. Advocate.

Mr. Haverson was spokesman for the rum men's delegation which waited on the Dominion government during the last session of Parliament. It is known to everybody that the rum traffic is a persistent and defiant violator of every law that is designed to interfere with it. The men of the traffic or their spokesmen never acknowledge the fact, however, except as, in this case, to urge it as a reason why no law restricting the traffic should be enacted. And, strange to say, there are many people who really think the lawless character of the men of the traffic is a reason why they should be given authority to carry on their abominable work. They do not reason in the same way about thieves and forgers and incendiaries whose crimes do not cause a tithe of the evil which the rum traffic produces.

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.—A good Christmas present to your son or daughter away from home, would be THE INTELLIGENCER for a year. Try it.

—Rev. W. Co., has been of the Sussex

—Rev. B. Carolina, is Andover Episc

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FROM R not writte some time may, perh readers. have taken torate. I new field; But I hav among th living at have not