

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 16TH, 1898.

There is need of more preaching of righteousness.

A great many people, says Moody, are thinking that we need new churches, that we need new organs, new choirs, and all these new things. That is not what the church of God needs today. It is the old power that the Apostles had.

In a Catholic church in Minneapolis prayers were offered "for the repose of the soul" of Miss Willard. The prayers are not likely to affect the soul of the deceased lady in any way. It is, however, pleasant to note the recognition of "a heretic" in so pronounced a way.

The "Free Baptist" suggests—that many pastors and a few other people have often thought of—that much more good would be done and many more people saved if churches would co-operate with their pastors as earnestly as they do with evangelists. Pastors often yearn for help which is withheld. It is not necessary to wait for a stranger to hold meetings in order to have a revival. God is ready to do a great work now. Most pastors would be glad to lead in efforts for the salvation of sinners. Where are their assistants?

Last week we mentioned what the Methodist church in Great Britain, and the Methodist church in Canada are contemplating in celebration of the opening of the twentieth century. Other denominations, also, are considering plans of celebration. The Roman Catholic leaders have the matter under consideration. Two features which seem to be agreed upon are (1) an attempt to create a revival of religious interest by holding "missions" simultaneously in almost every church; and (2) the preparation of elaborate and complete statistics for the purpose of making as inspiring a display as possible of the power of the Roman Catholic Church.

At a conference of Presbyterian ministers, held in Toronto recently, the question of applications for new congregations and calls of pastors was considered. There appears to be a good deal of unrest, which seems to demand some change in the method of bringing ministers and churches together and of making changes when necessary. As a result of the consideration of the matter, a committee was appointed to draft a scheme to be presented to the Toronto Presbytery. Among the things suggested was the fixing of the length of a pastor's term at, say, five years. If any new plan should be approved by the Presbytery, it would then go to the General Assembly for consideration. Changes do not easily take place in the Presbyterian church.

In a report of a meeting of the "Conference Board" of the Free Baptist Conference of the United States, held in Boston a few days ago, we find this paragraph:

Cordial greeting was sent to the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia and the Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick, with the hope that they may soon become an organic part of the General Conference of Free Baptists, as delegated bodies, on the same basis of representation as that on which other delegated bodies are represented.

The New Brunswick Conference, at its last session, adopted a resolution which, recognizing essential unity in doctrine, polity and spirit, and expressing the belief that benefits would result from a close union amongst all Free Baptists, said:

RESOLVED, That our delegate to the General Conference of Free Baptists which convenes at Ocean

Park, Maine, in August 1898, convey to the said General Conference our most cordial greetings and express a hope that the friendly feelings may continue in the future even to a greater degree than in the past, and to say that we would be most happy to welcome a fraternal delegate.

We do not find in the printed Minutes of the Nova Scotia Conference that there was any formal expression on this subject. We are sure, however, that our brethren in that Province have the most cordial relations with their and our brethren in the United States.

The Record of Facts.

Christ appealed to His works—"Believe me for the works' sake." Christianity to-day makes its appeal to what has been done, and is being done.

The record of Christian work, and of blessed results, which the religious press makes week after week and year after year, is ample proof of the divine power of the doctrines of Christ. Well authenticated religious facts are the very bulwark of religious teachings.

Faith can live among these old rocks and grow, when it would dwindle and die if rooted only in philosophies and ceremonies. Does the record of a conversion mean much? asks some one—and does it have any effect? Much every way. A healed man, a long-time demoniac clothed and in his right mind, a cleansed leper, an opened eye which had been blind from birth, a loosened tongue, a dead man alive—these are facts which build a solid wall under doctrines. It was the healed man standing among objectors and questioners which silenced them, they could say nothing against the fact. It was the simple fact of that he could see which made the once blind young man stand superior among his questioners. They might dislike the fact, they might call Jesus a sinner, but the fact—sight where before had been nothing but blindness—they could not gainsay, and they were impressed in spite of themselves.

The facts of "Christianity are its power in the world to-day. "What has your way of thinking done for you?" was the question with which a poor old woman, who could tell of her own gracious redemption, silenced the infidel lecturer. Let us put the Christian spirit in operative contact with the wickedness and misery of the world, and then go out and tell what it does—we will argue most effectively with all forms of unbelief. What makes men good will win the day in the argument. Men must believe the record of facts; they must honour our Lord for what He has done.

Church-Going Dress.

Showy dressing is not becoming anywhere. It is particularly unbecoming in church-goers. Aside from the unseemly vanity it suggests, and which does not accord with the spirit of worship, it not only tends to distract the attention of others, but to excite feelings of envy and emulation. Indulgence in costly attire and novelty of style are not generally prompted by mere taste, but to minister to pride by securing admiration or to provoke invidious comparisons. To a greater or less extent all gay and extravagant dressing is prompted by one or the other of these personal considerations. To indulge such feelings under any circumstances is a manifest impropriety, but to do so in connection with religious services is shockingly sinful. A circular paper rebukes showy church toilets in these words: "Why dress for church in garments so costly and of such variety that they must necessarily attract attention? The place is not adapted to such displays. They distract attention from church purposes. It is too much to say of any lady that she seeks attention to the sacrifice of that which should be devoted to book, or sermon, or prayer; that she airs her vanity when she should most show humility; that she wants to excite envy when the heart should be empty of all selfish and other personal considerations, but, surely, she does not dress in that manner altogether to please herself, and it is just possible that she takes to herself a somewhat irreligious satisfaction in making the discovery that no other lady has her costliness of plumage and her superiority of display."

There is another consideration that ought to restrain the well-to-do and the wealthy from indulging in showy church-going attire. We refer to its tendency to discourage those who are not able to deck themselves in costly garments from attending upon religious services. They do not wish to be conspicuous for cheapness of apparel any more than a properly sensitive woman would wish to be conspicuous for the luxury carried on her back. These women cannot attend church without something of a sacrifice of perfectly proper pride, whereas if plain dress were the rule at church they would be as much at ease at church as if there

were no thought of dress in any place in which it does not belong.

Assuming the correctness of these views, it is clearly the duty of all Christian women to dress with simplicity for church services so as to make no marked distinction between the appearance of worshippers whose worldly circumstances are widely different.—M.

Notes on Current Events.

It has been decided by the Canadian Government to send a military expedition to Yukon, to assist the civil authorities in the enforcement of law and order. The force will, it is stated, consist of about two hundred men, infantry and artillery.

There is a movement in the United States by which it is hoped to join the negroes of the country in one political party—the Afro-American party. The leader in the movement is a Mr. C. H. J. Taylor, a negro lawyer, and a one-time United States Minister to Liberia. He was born a slave, but is a man of marked ability.

It is reported that Capt. Dreyfus, who is imprisoned on the Ile du Diable, recently attempted suicide. He knows nothing of the agitation in France in his behalf. If he knew he would, perhaps, keep up his courage. But the awful isolation and other cruelties he has to endure have, probably, weakened his mind as well as his body, and in his despair he has sought to end it all in death. Since his attempted suicide he has had to sleep, it is said with his feet chained to a ball. It is to be hoped the poor man will live long enough to have justice done him.

A deputation of Presbyterian women in Toronto had an interview last week with Hon. C. Sifton, Minister of the Interior, and made a plea for prohibition of the liquor traffic in the Yukon district, and on the routes thereto. They presented a petition signed by 4900 Presbyterian women of Ontario. Mr. Sifton told them of his personal sympathy with every effort to enforce prohibition in the Yukon region. He said there were difficulties, however, in regard to the enforcement of such law, that the subject had already been before the cabinet, and he hoped for some favourable action.

A London paper says that smoking by women has become quite general, and is increasing. It says: The great middle class is smoking as unconstrainedly as the aristocracy, and the working woman is fast following. One well known lady's title is sometimes seen driving in the Ripley road with a briar-root pipe in her mouth. Enquiries made among doctors, tobaccoists and others, show that the bicycle is responsible for much, as, with wheel parties has arisen a freedom of manner unknown in the presence of chaperons.

Between 1887 and 1897 England was the only old world country whose public debt diminished. The six nations most indebted in 1897 were France, Russia, England, Germany, Austria and Italy in the order given, and their debts represent 83 per cent. of the whole of the State debts of Europe. It is curious that the capital of the State debts of the Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, and Italy) increased almost to the same amount as that of France and Russia together—viz., nearly £1,700,000.

It is stated that the interview which the brewers had with the government, some days ago, was a secret one. No reporters were permitted to be present, and so far as possible what took place was kept from the public. When the prohibitionists have waited on the government, neither they nor the government have sought to have the meeting secret. They had nothing to say, nor any way of saying it, which they were not willing to have all the country know. And they were quite willing, too, that whatever the government said should be known to everybody. The two parties—the rum gang and the prohibitionists—differ very widely in several respects.

Some New York capitalists have undertaken a large colonization scheme in Honduras, Central America. John Jacob Astor is one of the leaders in the movement. The syndicate has already, says the "Standard," started a bank in Honduras, erected light-houses, established a revenue cutter service, and begun the extension of the Honduras Rai road to the Pacific Ocean. It has taken control of the custom houses under a guaranty to the Government of \$1,000,000 a year, and has cut already \$1,600 a month of old-time smuggling gains. The new rail-road has reached the great coffee station belt now, and a colony will be formed there, in which every man will have a chance for a fortune. Only men with families, with some little

money, with practical farming experience, and with the best of reputations will be taken.

Rev. Mr. Maiman and Mr. Neilson, of New Denmark, in this Province, have been sent to Denmark by the Provincial Government to induce intending Danish emigrant to settle in this Province. Those who have settled here have done very well.

The unfortunate Farmers' Loan and Savings Company, of Ontario, will go into the courts for settlement. The offer made by Mr. Mulock, of which mention was made two weeks ago, has not been accepted by the shareholders. The directors and auditors are being sued for issuing false reports, which deceived and defrauded the people who intrusted their money to the Company.

On Wednesday a deputation representing the Quebec Provincial W. C. T. U. waited on the Government at Ottawa, and urged the prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of liquor in the Klondyke country. The ladies, who said they represented over two thousand W. C. T. U. members in the Province, presented their case earnestly. Messrs Sifton, Fisher and Fielding, speaking for the government, said they would do what they could.

The report of the superintendent of Indian affairs, just laid before Parliament sets forth that the Indian population of Canada has got along very well during the past year, and has not suffered any hardships or reverse.

The Indians in British Columbia, the Territories and Manitoba are yearly getting to appreciate better the value of live stock, which they find more reliable than grain, and more profitable. The earnings of the Indians throughout the Dominion are put down at about \$2,400. The amount expended for relief is gradually becoming less, last year being \$190,817. As of temperance and morality, the report states that taking all the circumstances into consideration, it reflects credit upon the Indians as a people that temperance pervades to the extent it does. During the year 285 Indian schools were in operation through the Dominion with an enrolment of 9,628 pupils and an average attendance of fifty-five percent. The day schools number 232, with an enrolment of 6,877 and an average attendance of forty-six percent. There were twenty-two industrial schools, with an average attendance of 1,550, costing \$212,000. The government's expenditure upon education during the year was \$306,953, and the report recommends caution with regard to any further increase to this expenditure which increased between the years 1880 and 1890 from 18,000 to \$250,000.

Every day hundreds are arriving at Vancouver, enroute to the Klondike. All the hotels and boarding houses are kept full to overflowing. Steamers are leaving daily, but the crowd waiting for passage increases.

The situation in the far East is considered quite critical. Russia and France are, apparently, acting as though they do not believe that England will go to war if her demands concerning Chinese ports are not regarded. England is, of course, using every honourable means to avoid war, but from the extensive war preparations which are being made there is evidently a determination to fight if necessary.

The war feeling in the United States is quite strong. It is said that the President has gone so far as to communicate with the European powers as to their feeling in the event of war with Spain, and that from all except Germany and France there came assurances of the fullest sympathy with the United States.

In the speech of the Governor of Great Britain on the opening of the Legislature last Thursday, there occurs this paragraph relating to prohibition:

Pursuant to a resolution of the House, passed during the last session, the opinion of an eminent counsel has been obtained upon the question of the jurisdiction of the legislature to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor within the province. The document in connection therewith will be shortly laid before you.

Perhaps it was not quite convenient for you to renew earlier in the year. Do it now.

It is intimated that the United States will have two new Cardinals about June 1st.—Archbishop Corrigan New York, and Archbishop Ireland, St. Paul.

WHAT ONE THINKS.—A subscriber whose payment was delayed less than two months, writes: "It is mean to keep you out of it so long."

The Fruits of Patience.

BY REV. C. F. PENNY D. D.

The homely quality of patience is much honored in the Word of God.—The Apostle James declares that our trials work faith, and faith works patience, and patience makes a perfect man.—(James 1:2-4) Is patience, then, a sign of perfection in a man? As compared with other great qualities we seek after, patience seems very homely, low, and comparatively negative. It looks to men as if it were a mere holding on. Courage is brilliant, ready to meet and resist to put on the whole armour of God, and go forth to battle, and overcome; or being set upon vehemently, to be able to stand a blow. There is something rather brilliant and lustrous in that. There is heroism in it.

But patience—what is there in that? Yet it is a quality by which a man holds himself equal to his circumstances. It is that supreme quality by which a man reigns in his forces, places himself willingly where God and his providence allots him, and is superior to his situation. Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, says the Apostle,—because it is going to make men of you, going to make you hardy enduring, going to thrust you up upon higher considerations that are more becoming to you than those given of ease and comfort, and desirous unfulfilled.

Let patience have her perfect work. Raw patience does not amount to much. Ripe patience means a great deal; not that patience which is momentary and fugitive, but that which has settled down and become chronic.

How beautiful to see a man or woman who has come to a state of ripe patience—the serene face of the matron on whom all sweetness and goodness wait, and who is living just at the golden sunset of her life, and who has been through trials, and sorrows unnumbered, and for the great heart sorrows of this life never come to the surface: broken-hearted, almost, yet, by her faith in God enduring till one and another thing is removed, and her life at last is completed, and she stands in the golden light—waiting. How beautiful is the serenity of victorious age that has not been overthrown, that has gone through the rugged way, and across Jordan into the promised land. In all life, how beautiful it is to see a man equal to the conditions in which he is placed, to see his manhood the strongest element, to see him lay aside his childishness in little things, his ambitions, his complaints, to see him refuse to be discouraged, to see him endure, and press forward though he has been thrown down a hundred times in the same road, and take his staff and push on again.

Brethren, count it all joy—all joy, when you are brought to an opportunity for such a manhood as this. Practice it. Try and be victorious over all accidents and circumstances by the power of that faith that looks into the air and sees what other men cannot see—that looks into the life beyond and sees what does not exist to our mortal sight or to our science in this life. Ye have need of such patience through all the conditions of this life. Count it all joy, all joy, therefore, when ye fall into divers temptations. Knowing this, that the trial of your faith worketh patience, but let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

If you have sent your renewal, we thank you.

Mission News and Notes.

—Every breath we draw four perish, never having heard of Christ.

—Last year the churches of the whole Christian world gave \$13,000,000 for foreign missions. The churches of United States gave about \$5,000,000, of this sum.

—The Volunteer Missionary Union of Great Britain has banded together thirteen hundred men and women under the declaration, "It is my purpose, if God permits, to become a foreign missionary." Already three hundred of these are serving the Lord on the field.

—The linguists say that 438 languages and 153 dialects are found so far in Africa. Of these 591 only 81 have translations of the Bible, whole or in part; more than 500 even have no alphabet. There are 60,000,000 in the Sudan alone, without any missionary in their midst.

—People of India have great confidence in medical missionaries, as is evinced in the fact that the native people in and about Madura City, most of them heathens, have contributed \$10,000 for the erection of a hospital in that city, to be the property of the American Board of Missions.

—"No one among the great missionaries of China," says The Outlook, "has performed nobler work than Dr. Griffith John. No one would be less likely to mistake the signs of times."

Dr. John states, with great emphasis, that the authorities are supporting the missionaries, and that they call upon all the people in strong and vigorous proclamations to respect their rights and privileges, and warn the people that violence against the missionaries will be followed by penalty of death. Great results from missionary labour may soon be expected in China.

Everybody whose renewal is due is earnestly urged to send it at once.

Home Religious News.

—At Bear River, N. S., fourteen converts were baptized on Sunday, and received into the Baptist church.

—Interesting revival meetings are being held in the Portland, St. John, Methodist church.

Denominational News.

MINISTERS. Rev. O. N. Mott is holding special meeting at Blissville. There is an encouraging interest.

Rev. J. J. Barnes began special meetings at Gordonsville a few days ago.

FROM REV. T. O. DEWITT.—This is one of the hardest years I have known for getting about. I like my pastorate very much. The people are very kind and considerate, and I enjoy labouring amongst them. There are some good young people in every part of the field who would be a great help in the church if they were but converted. The Lord hasten the day when their steps shall be turned to "the testimony of His name." The interest in all the churches is very good; and the attendance at meetings has been encouraging, considering the rough winter, the people scattered, and some in the lumber woods. I am hoping to see better days in all parts of the pastorate.

T. O. DEWITT.

HARTLAND, C. Co.—On Sabbath 6th inst., I was privileged to administer the ordinance of baptism to two converts at this place. We have not had all the revival we had hoped and worked for, but we believe very much seed has been sown that will, by and by, bear fruit. I have learned that we cannot have revivals just when we please, no more than we can pluck ripe apples in June. There must be the seed-sowing and cultivation. Happy are we if we have learned to know when we should be sowing and when reaping. Some of us, in our hurry and over anxiety, rush in and begin to garner the half-ripened wheat; and when the threshing day comes we have only chaff, and no grain. How often do we then sit down, like Elijah, beneath some juniper tree, and murmur and complain. Oh that at such times we might hear that "still, small voice" calling us to our duty in the vineyard. As a pastor, I am praying, "teach me thy way oh Lord, that I am not too slow nor yet too fast in thy work."

On Sabbath, on entering the church, I was delighted to find bro. Noble present. He very kindly took charge of the service, and gave us an excellent sermon from the words, "The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree; he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." His energy and vigour, as he presented the truth, amazed me. I could hardly believe I was listening to one past four-score years. The sermon was rich with the wisdom that comes from many years in fellowship with God. Bro. Noble is always welcome to my pastorate, and among my people.

On account of the very deep snow and the uncomfortable condition of the church at Newburgh, I have not been able to keep my appointments there, but shall take them up at once. All over the field good will and harmony prevail, for which we thank God.

J. B. DAGGETT.

March 8th, 1898.

REV. G. F. CURRIE is holding special meetings at Midland, K. Co. There is an encouraging interest.

Rev. Jos. McLeod spent last Sunday on the Sussex pastorate. Rev. A. Stoerger is still in St. John. He does not gain strength rapidly as he had expected. He hopes to be able to resume work soon.

FREDERICTON.—The special meetings continued last week. A number professed conversion. Last Sabbath five were baptized.

Is your 1898 renewal yet due? Kindly send it this week.

A JUBILEE.—The J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass., have been celebrating the jubilee of the establishment of the business of the company—a business which has grown to immense proportions. If, as has been said, the average life of a patent medicine is only about two years, the fact that the Ayer preparations have lived and prospered increasingly through half a century would seem to indicate that they have merits not possessed by many others.