

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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

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A Word To Subscribers.

The "dull times" of the last year or two has made the business management of religious papers a little harder than usual. People—even very good christian people—have a habit of delaying payments for religious things—including their religious papers, a little longer than they delay payments of other kinds. They probably do not mean to make any additional burden for the managers of religious papers, but it has that effect notwithstanding. To remind them of this ought to be sufficient, we think, to move them to relieve the extra burden by hurrying to pay up.

The INTELLIGENCER management has had a full share of the "hard times" that have touched all religious papers in the past year. A large number of subscribers—considerably larger than usual—have not yet paid for this year. Some owe for a longer period. We have waited with what we think is a good degree of patience, expecting to hear from them before the year got as old as it now is. Have they forgotten?

We dislike to make this reference to the matter in our columns, but business demands it. WE NEED TO HAVE PAYMENTS NOW FROM ALL WHO ARE IN ARREARS—whether for this year only, or for longer.

To every one of these we appeal to do us the kindness of sending payment at once.

The money is needed—is needed now. And they will do us the greatest favour who will, as soon as they have read this, enclose the amount due.

Do not wait till next week. Do not wait, even, till to-morrow.

Do it now!

Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D. D., EDITOR.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 16TH, 1898.

Thursday of next week is Thanksgiving day in Canada. The same day will be observed as Thanksgiving in the United States.

Exercise is the normal and indispensable condition of religious health. To be well we must be active. We are to work according to our strength and in wise directions.

There is, unhappily, too much truth in the remark of "the Star" that some churches "count success rather by the number of dollars got than by the number of souls saved." How about your church, brother?

We read of a church-building being sold for an ice house. Perhaps because it was cold was the reason it had to be sold. Churches should be warm places—warm with sympathy and love and the spirit of helpfulness.

Anything that the ministers may say or do to move those indebted to the INTELLIGENCER to pay now, and to encourage all subscribers to promptly renew for 1899, will help us very much and be greatly appreciated.

Every christian is called to be a missionary to the lost. In some way he must go with or send the message of salvation to the perishing. And he must keep on doing this to the end of life. The more he does it, the more he wants to do it, the more he develops in genuine spiritual life and power, and the fuller is his experience of "the joy of salvation."

A Society now existing in England, and expected to reach a peak of the British Empire is known

as the "Imperial Protestant Federation." Its purpose is to unite all classes of religious denominations in the United Kingdom and the Colonies to maintain Protestant supremacy and oppose to Roman Catholic and sacerdotal or infidel supremacy in every branch of the constitution and life of the Empire. A large number of kindred societies have joined the Federation and it is hoped to draw in others.

An exchange tells of a member of a Baptist church whose earnings are \$5.50 a week. With this he supports his family—a wife and three children. Besides contributing to the support of his church, he pays twenty cents a week to missions. And, though it is not stated, we venture to say that he takes his denominational paper and pays for it. Many a man with a much larger income excuses himself from contributing to the Lord's cause on the plea of inability. There are hundreds of independent farmers who think they have contributed generously to their churches when they give \$5.00 a year, and who plead that they cannot pay anything to the support of missions, and say they are not able to take their denominational paper. Such brethren are not doing either God's cause or themselves justice. Think and pray about it.

An English clergyman has been enlightening the faithful on the subject of incense. He quoted Old Testament references to incense, and urged that when incense is now used in church it is used in exactly the same spirit as it was offered by the Hebrews. "Incense," he said, represents prayer; it means not only our own prayers, but our Lord's prayers offered for us. He takes our poor prayers and offers them up, joined to His all-powerful intercession to His Almighty Father, just as the angels offered incense. We ask that our prayers may be heard for the merits of Jesus Christ, and thus incense comes to represent the application of the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ. And when any persons are censured, whether priests or people, it represents the application of the merits of Jesus Christ to those who are censured, that they may approach the Father, and that their prayers may be heard.

How is that for scriptural teaching?

"Let another praise thee, and not thine own mouth," somebody may be ready to say of what follows. And yet it is not at all an improper thing to say. It is "The Free Baptist," the Western organ of the denomination which says: "There are churches and denominations more popular than Free Baptists. There are denominations having, as a rule, more costly buildings, finer singing, greater orators, and vaster audiences. But there are none having a clearer or more consistent statement of the truth according to the Word of God. There is none which has done more to lead others into the truth, or been more evangelistic in spirit and method. There is none which has been more ready to stand alone with God for the right rather than compromise with the wrong. Free Baptists have never studied policy very much, but there are very few people in the world who can give them pointers on principle."

That the Salvation Army has done, and is doing, much good in some places is not questioned by anybody who watches religious movements. God has used it as one of the great forces for reaching and lifting up many who seemed beyond the reach of the agencies employed by the churches. And that it has had an effect on the Church, in moving it to the use of new agencies, is, also, true. Whether the Army will continue in its present form, producing the marked good effects of its earlier years, is a question in many minds. Speaking of its future, the "Independent" says:—"There is unquestionably a feeling that it cannot continue indefinitely, that there are inherent weaknesses in the organization which must be apparent, and which can scarcely fail to militate against permanent efficiency. Whether there shall be in the future a break up of the present organization and system, or whether it will develop into something not alien to and yet something different from the present, no one probably would be willing to say."

SHERIFF FREEZE, of Kings Co., died at his home in Sussex Sunday. He was stricken with paralysis the Wednesday before. He had held the office of Sheriff for over thirty-five years—a longer time than any other Sheriff in the Province. He was a man of kindly nature, was widely known, and had many friends who will regret to hear of his death. He was a blessed with a good deal of

Conference Action.

IV.

OLD MINISTERS AND YOUNG MINISTERS.

The Christian Church owes much to its ministers. They are hard worked, and, as a rule, poorly paid. They rarely make complaints. Gladly they deny themselves many things that they may fulfil the ministry which they have received of the Lord Jesus. They deserve the love of all people, in whose behalf they are abundant in labours that are not in vain in the Lord. The Church, especially, should regard them with deep affection, and give them loyal support in their leadership and labours for the prosperity of Zion.

The special feature of the Church's duty to its ministers to be considered in this article, is the making provision for the sick and disabled. Ministers grow old. Sometimes those not yet old are disabled. Sickness, accident, or any of a number of causes may, any day, deprive a minister of his ability to preach. Unable to do the work of his calling he is without means of support. There is but one forgotten minister—the worn-out one. He is remembered, of course, by a few, but by the many he is practically forgotten. When he was active and vigorous he did faithful, even heroic service; he was in the minds of the people, was sought after, and was listened to with delight. Disabled, his faithful service is often but a vague memory; and he, himself, is too often but a misty personage of a half-remembered dream.

When his name is mentioned by those who knew him best, there are momentary expressions of interest, even of gladness, that he lived and did so bravely the work which was the joy of his heart. But with the hour the thought of him passes away. Men are busy. The concerns of the present fully engage their attention and energies. They forget that the past made possible the present; that the toilers of earlier years did much, under God, to create the better Church, the more favourable conditions of Christian work, and the larger privileges and richer blessings which they enjoy. And the old man, with little except the memory of such faithful service as he was capable of, its trials and its triumphs, and the consciousness of the divine presence and approval, is left alone. There is no more pathetic sight. An old servant of God, worn with the work of many years, left alone! Hundreds and often thousands are enjoying privileges and blessings which could not have been but for his self-denying work. Others are reaping where he sowed. He hears of the growth of churches which he planted or nurtured, when the difficulties were many, and he rejoices; for the sower rejoices in the harvest, even though the reaper may forget that a sower preceded him. But he is alone; and alone he has to face the serious fact that, though he is no longer able to labour, food and clothing and shelter are still needed.

It is no use to say, as some may, that the minister should, himself, make provision for the contingency of sickness or old age. It is quite impossible for him to do so on the average salary. Salaries amongst us have never been large; indeed, in most cases, they have been very small. Even now, though they average more than in earlier years, they are small—so small that in very few cases it is possible to make any savings for old age or disability. If a minister turns aside for a time from his ministry in the hope of earning more than a bare living, he is likely to be severely criticized. Very few do it. The minister who feels the weight and worth of his work, and loves it, does not want to turn aside from it even temporarily, nor does he desire to combine any purely secular employment with his ministerial duties, even though hard pressed to make ends meet. To pay better salaries is one duty of the churches; and many of them are quite able to do so. Of this we may have something to say later.

The Christian body which does not make adequate provision for its worn-out ministers, is certainly, not doing its whole duty. The honour of the Church, and the prosperity of the Christian cause demand that the veterans be provided for. The Methodists have their superannuation fund. The Baptists have their Annuity Association. The Presbyterians have a fund for the purpose. Some other denominations provide for this acknowledged necessity in some form. We have nothing but the annual collections at District Meetings and Conference the whole aggregating a very small sum. A few years ago the Conference asked each church to take a collection for the Ministers Relief Fund. A few did it; the others—forgot.

We have often wished that this Fund might be remembered by some of our people when they are making their wills, or, better still, that some who have a blessed with a good deal of

money, would, while living, make large contributions to it. These things will, we must believe, be done some time, if not just now. It is hoped and expected that by putting the matter before all the people in a systematic way as the missions and other general interests of the denomination are put, they will think more about it and come to contribute to it regularly and with increasing generosity. And this habit of regular contributions will give this claim on their gifts such a place in the hearts of the people that the larger gifts will surely follow.

What is asked for in the present plan of the Conference, is something from every church, every year, for the Sick and Disabled Ministers' Fund. Surely nothing can more tenderly or strongly appeal to the sympathies of all our people. The thought that those who have devoted themselves without stint, and without thought of self, in season and out of season, to the most earnest and heroic christian service, are, or may be, by broken health or the burden of many years, without means of support, must touch the heart of every thoughtful christian.

We owe, also, a duty to the coming ministers. Young men are being called of God to the work of the ministry. They are "not disobedient to the heavenly vision." They realize that they need special equipment for the special work to which they are called. Not many, if any, of them are able unaided to put themselves through the schools, unless they are willing to spend double the time they should be required to spend. Half the time earning the money which will enable them to spend the other half at school. The thought of having to adopt this plan may have, and doubtless does have, the effect of discouraging some, and their work is lost to us. Even in those cases where the young men persevere, alternating a year of work with a year at school, there is a loss of time that need not be if the churches would "lend a hand." Our young men, candidates for the ministry, are worth more to us than we have seemed to think. We have never done for them what they deserve, and what the cause which they are to serve deserves. The churches are not, perhaps, so much at fault for this neglect as might at first glance be thought. The matter has not been as clearly and persistently brought to their attention as it might have been.

It is not intended to provide a fund to fully support young men during a long course of study. But we should give them enough help to tide over the hard places, and to give them practical assurance then of our interest and sympathy. Our young men who have been at the schools have done well, and have, for the most part, done it with but small help.

Sometimes complaint is made that those who go away to the Divinity School do not return. This is true in some cases. We are, however, largely to blame for their non-return. They receive help from the Education Fund of our United States brethren. The churches there are kind, and often even generous, to them. They easily, and quite properly, feel under obligation to the people and the churches who dealt so generously with them. And they see no way of paying the obligation but by going into the work there. To make sure of our young men returning to the home work, we need to practically express our sympathy with them in their laudable endeavours to get ready for efficient work.

The churches are calling for well-equipped ministers. The interests of the cause of Christ demand such men for the religious teaching and leadership of the people. Every denomination makes provision for helping its young ministers get ready for their important work. Our churches need to more generally and systematically do the same. Failing to do so, the cause entrusted to us will suffer irreparably.

The young men can, generally, receive some help by devoting their vacations to such mission work as may offer. They are always glad to do this. But, besides this, what has been done for them thus far, has, for the most part, been from a few individual christians. Occasionally some church that has special knowledge of a young brother has helped him—but only because of interest in him, rather than in the young men generally who are preparing for the ministry. The churches, as a whole, have not yet done anything in this way worthy of themselves or the work.

What is now desired is that all the churches, without reference to personal knowledge or preference, shall share in this obligation which is upon the denomination by contributing to a common fund for the assistance of students for the ministry. Something every year from every church—the smallest and weakest, as well as the largest and strongest—will provide the

needed funds. A moderate amount of help, which suggests a large and hearty sympathy, will do wonders. Not only the young men will be encouraged and helped in their praise-worthy endeavours, but the churches, also, will be blessed, both presently and prospectively.

With great confidence in the strong claims of these two funds on all our people, we commend them to their prayerful consideration and their warm support.

Notes On Current Events.

In Bombay city there has been an abatement of the plague, but in other districts the deaths have somewhat increased. Northern India is quite free from the plague.

Two years ago Colorado substituted life imprisonment for death as the penalty for murder. The experience of the two years has shown that murders have increased. The increase began as soon as the death penalty was abolished. Now there is an agitation for the restoration of the death penalty for wilful murder.

The Greeks who not long ago, when they suffered reverses at the hands of the Turks, were shouting their favourite cry of "Down with the King! Out with his right eye!" have now returned to the most enthusiastic and exaggerated loyalty, so much so that King George has never enjoyed so much popularity since he came to the throne. Public opinion is a fickle thing.

The billing-and-cooing of the German Emperor and the Sultan, is not for nothing. A Berlin paper says that the visit of the Emperor to the Sultan has led to an agreement by which Germany undertakes to support the integrity of the Sultan's Asiatic possessions, for which Germany will receive commercial and industrial privileges. And it is suggested that this agreement is tantamount to an armed alliance between the two countries.

Recent statements are to the effect that the death rate in British New Guinea is alarming. Some white men die within a few weeks of their arrival there, owing to the climate. Fever and dysentery carry them off quickly. There are rich gold mines there, but they cannot be worked on account of the deadly climate. Chinese have been tried, but they, too, died quickly. Samoans were tried, and six out of ten of them died in a few weeks. The natives are quite averse to work.

The two-cent postage rate between the colonies and Great Britain is announced to go into effect on Christmas day. India is to be included in the two cent arrangement. We, in Canada, will then have the strange condition of being able to send a letter to Great Britain and other parts of the empire for less than one can be sent to a Canadian Post Office two or three miles distant from the office of posting.

The directors of the Montreal Society for the Protection of Women and Children discussed, a few days ago, the advisability of the compulsory retirement of habitual drunkards to institutions where they could be treated and cured, instead of being sent to jail. One ground taken was that since the Dominion Government derives a considerable revenue from the liquor traffic, the government should provide means for minimizing the evils of the traffic. No decision was reached, but the matter was referred to the advisory board of the society with instructions to report. There is some force in the contention of the Society; but how much better and more sensible to remove the cause. A striking illustration of the abominable character of the drink traffic is furnished by the report of the officers of the Socie y, which shows that nearly all the cases they have to deal with—and there were fifty-six cases last month—are cases of assaults, kidnappings, neglect to support families &c., resulting directly from the liquor traffic.

The "Sydney News" has the following facts about a teetotal island: The Governor of St. Helena in his last report gives an account of a visit which he lately paid to Tristan d'Acunha. This little island lies about 1500 miles almost due south of St. Helena, and about the same distance west of the Cape of Good Hope. The Governor found the 61 inhabitants, consisting of 18 males, 23 females, and 20 children, under the nominal control of the aged Peter W. Green, in excellent health, and desiring the help of the chaplain rather than of the doctor of the ship. The climate is an admirable one, and the general condition of the inhabitants

leaves little to be desired from a material point of view. The inhabitants are total abstainers, and they certainly form, says Governor Wilson, a strong argument in favor of teetotalism.

As showing the fine energy with which England is pushing forward in Africa, the "Canada Baptist" mentions the facts that a railway has been pushed up from the Cape of Good Hope over 1300 miles, and that the Nile railway has been pushed south over 1000 miles, while another from the Eastern coast stretches over more than 180 miles. Great Britain spreads her dominions by introducing the trade and facilities of civilization as she goes. France seeks to extend her territories by peripatetic bands of military explorers, and Germany by establishing military despotisms. It is also the glory of English Colonial policy, since shortly after modern missions were established, to allow perfect freedom of religious effort, while protection is afforded to all. Wherever France has gained away the Colonial Government has been dominated by the Romish priesthood, and Protestant missions have suffered various forms of persecution.

The United States elections on Tuesday of last week were favourable to the Republicans though they suffered losses. In New York state Col. Roosevelt, of the "Rough Riders" of the late war, was elected Governor, defeating the Tammany candidate. The elections were watched with interest on side of the States, particularly because it was thought they might indicate the country's attitude towards the expansion policy of the Administration. If the elections did correctly express the feeling about this, it would seem that there is not a very strong feeling in favour of it. It is possible, though, since there is feeling both for and against it in both parties, that the elections did not fairly test the question.

The trouble about the island of Anticosti, caused by the attempt of M. Menier, the Frenchman who claims to own it, to drive off a number of long-time settlers who are Protestants (Methodists) and presumably on that account alone, offensive to him, has given rise to a question about the extent of his authority on the island. It is questioned whether such a territory could be sold to a citizen of another country, to be governed by him as he chose. The British Colonial Office sent a request to the Canadian Government for a report of the facts regarding the sale of the island to M. Menier. One thing is certain—that he is amenable to the laws of Canada, and of the Province of Quebec. And it is hoped and expected that the authorities will see that he does not treat unjustly any of the poor people whom he evidently regards as his subjects.

It is announced that all the powers have accepted the invitation of the Czar to the proposed disarmament conference. Three delegates will represent each power. The Conference is, it is understood, to be held in February.

The International Commission has resumed deliberations, this time in Washington. The Canadian Commissioners except Sir Wilfrid Laurier, went to Washington last week. Sir Wilfrid goes this week, having remained to welcome the new Governor General.

It is now stated that Dreyfus, the prisoner at Devils Island, whose case has so deeply agitated France, is very soon to be brought back to Paris.

Latest mail advices from Sierra Leone, West Africa, tell of the execution of thirteen murderers of the missionaries in the Sherbro district in May last. The murdered missionaries were from the United States and belonged to the United Brethren in Christ denomination.

During the ten months of this year ended Oct. 31st, the emigrants from British ports to Canada numbered 18,474. This is three times as many as sailed from the same ports for Australia during the year, and is several thousands more than went to Cape Colony.

The new Governor General, Lord Minto, arrived at Quebec Saturday afternoon. He was met there by Premier Laurier, the Governor of Quebec and several members of the Dominion Government. After being sworn in Lord Minto proceeded at once to Montreal.

A few hours after the arrival of his successor, Lord Alderden sailed for England.

The Lord Mayor's Banquet, in early November of each year, is usually