

Religious Intelligencer.

THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH CHRIST.—Peter

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Notes and Gleanings.

It is said that in the sandy deserts of Arabia whirling winds sometimes excavate pits 200 feet in depth, and extending down to the harder stratum on which the great bed of sand rests.

The United States owes more than one billion dollars abroad, and about \$44,000,000 is required annually to pay interest. If we add the familiar estimate of \$100,000,000 spent in Europe by American tourists we find that we must send to Europe \$144,000,000 annually.

The "Electrical World's" latest number says wireless telegraphy has now reached nearly ten miles; and we may reasonably hope that the future will enable much greater distances to be successfully overcome, so that wireless telegraphy may take its place as a commercial application.

It is estimated that every cubic mile of sea-water contains \$65,000,000 worth of gold, and that there are 300,000,000 cubic miles of sea on the globe. On the shores of North Lubeck, Me., a plant has been put which is working at a good profit in getting gold and silver from sea water.

A complete and successful system of prohibition obtains in Fiji. The rum manufactured at the sugar factories has to be sent elsewhere, as any one giving intoxicating liquor to a native is fined £50, and imprisoned three months. This penalty is doubled for each repeated offence while in the colonies.

Tao discoverer of Mount Bischoff, the greatest tin mine in the world, which has paid \$7,500,000 in dividends, died a short time ago practically penniless. "Philosopher" Smith, as he was called, had a pension of \$1,000 per annum from the New South Wales government but it did not enable him to make provision for his wife. The New South Wales parliament was accordingly asked to continue half the pension in her favor, which it did by a large majority. When Mount Bischoff was made into a stock company Smith took a large number of shares, but, losing confidence in his own discovery, sold them for a song.

Edison tells us that he will shortly be able to make the blind see by means of the X-rays. Meanwhile Prof. Dussaud of the University of Geneva has invented an apparatus to enable the deaf to hear. The micro-phonograph he has just issued to the world magnifies the human voice in the same way as a lens magnifies a picture. Ninety-five per cent. of so-called stone-deaf persons can be made to hear and understand by means of Prof. Dussaud's invention. Prof. Dussaud in the same order of ideas, is preparing for the 1900 exhibition an apparatus which will enable ten thousand people, who may be all deaf, to follow a lecture.

The new warships of Russia are being fitted to burn a liquid fuel called "masut," and plans for its storage have been prepared and the buildings are being constructed at Kronstadt. The tanks in the depot will have a capacity of seventeen thousand tons, and in the building of them old marine boilers are to be used. A special iron vessel, of one thousand tons' burden, is to be constructed, fitted with all necessary apparatus, for the transport of the petroleum fuel from the shore to the ships. The Admiral Grieg is to have tanks fitted in her coal bunkers, and when the Admiral Nachimoff returns from China she will undergo similar treatment. Her present boilers will be converted into tanks, and new boilers will be substituted for them. Naval authorities throughout the world are deeply interested in these projects.

A GRIEVANCE.—A formal complaint was laid before Quebec Board of Trade last week that the broom and brush manufacturers of this district are receiving unfair and disastrous competition from the Grey Nuns in charge of Beauport Asylum, who pay no taxes and who use the free labor of the inmates of that institution, for whose support they are paid, to manufacture and put upon the market goods in their line at prices ruinous to the regular industry.

Principle And Expediency.

It is easy for some to confound principle and expediency. Principles are fundamental and eternal. For principle men are wont to willingly lay down their lives. Principle must be adhered to for its own sake and does not consult consequences. "It has nothing to do with results, and is itself greater than any results. Expediency looks for the best way out of a present difficulty. Tangled in the meshes of circumstances, expediency aims to get the feet out. It is essentially self-centred and looks out for present safety or immediate good. Expediency should never assert itself in questions of principle. Essential right cannot compromise and has a constant struggle with the faint-hearted who are dominated by expediency. The expediency dominated, unchecked by principle, are damned.

The domain of these two motives is distinct, and each has its place in the career of every noble, succeeding man. Where expediency has the right to speak, principle is not involved. Where principle has a voice expediency is out of count. If one feels that he stands for principle he has nothing to do but to stand.

An unessential matter in itself may become a matter of principle. Circumcision was at first kept up by Jewish Christians. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision was anything, but a new creature in Christ Jesus. Paul even had Timothy, half Jew and half Greek, circumcised, to remove objection to his work among the Jews. That was expediency. No principle was involved. But at Jerusalem when the Pharisaic party among the Christians demanded that Titus, a Greek, be circumcised to satisfy the Judaizing element, Paul would not yield for one hour. That was principle. To yield in this case would have imposed the Jewish ceremonial law upon all the Gentile Christians. Paul could not think of it for a moment.

A favorite resort of timid souls is to apply expediency to the particular case in hand, saying that the general principle will be adhered to after this special difficulty is passed. Just that argument was used upon Paul in the case of Titus. One cannot eat his cake and keep it too. It is impossible to surrender a great principle and hold on to it at the same time.

Every pastor meets the expedient brother who looks at a great crisis in the church with the eye of a politician rather than with the statesman's vision.

"Because right is right, to follow right were wisdom in the scorn of consequence."

Baptist Argus.

The Inevitable Decline.

In a recent issue of the Methodist Times, London, Hugh Price Hughes shows that the Roman Catholic Church has relatively declined very much during the present century. The facts are impressive and noteworthy, especially in view of the fact that in the Church of England there has been an extensive movement in the direction of the Roman Catholic position. Services and ceremonies are in vogue in hundreds of parishes that remind those participating in them of the services in the Roman Catholic churches, and the so-called sacerdotal system is widely prevalent. Hugh Price Hughes indicates that in 1890 Cardinal Manning claimed a R. C. population of 1,500,000 in England, of whom only 200,000 were English. Of the rest 100,000 were French, German or Italian, while 1,200,000 were Irish. The apparent growth of Roman Catholicism in England is not very considerable, and it is largely due to the immense immigration of Irishmen. Canon Murnane is quoted as saying at a meeting of the Guild of "our Lady of Ransom" at Liverpool:

"When some fifty years ago the Irish famine sent hundreds of thousands of the most loyal, the most pure-hearted, and zealous people in the world into the great industrial centres of this country, one would naturally have hoped for a great future for the Catholic Church—for the wished-for conversion of the Dowry of Mary. But alas! what was the result? Their people—those people who came here under such auspices, with such faith and strength and manhood, were today the loafers round the street corners, the disgraces and scandals of the cities and towns."

Ireland has lost 3,000,000 of her

Catholic population 2,000,000 have come to the United States and Canada, 1,000,000 possibly more, have crossed over to England and Scotland. But in the United Kingdom there are now fewer Roman Catholics by two millions than at the beginning of the century. While this is a fact it is also true that the Church is very much better organized, and in proportion to its numbers wields greater influence. With regard to the United States the writer says:

In 1890 the total population was 62,622,000; those were distributed as follows—5,794,000 non-Christians of various sorts, 7,198,000 Roman Catholics, 49,630,000 Protestants. We have read in Roman Catholic newspapers and in reports of Roman Catholic meetings, statements to the effect that if Rome had only been able to retain in the United States the children and the grandchildren of the Irish and other Roman Catholic emigrants from Europe, her adherents to-day could not number less than 25,000,000, and probably many more. Instead of gaining in the United States, as journalists so vainly imagine, Rome is today poorer by at least 20,000,000 the result of the existence of that vast Protestant community. Indeed Romanism is losing ground in America so steadily that during the last twenty years her adherents have decreased from 12 per cent. of the population to 11.5 per cent.

In 1841 there were 6,958,737 Roman Catholics within the Four Seas, constituting 28.8 per cent. of the population. In 1891 there were 5,067,307, constituting only 14.9 per cent. Relatively, therefore, they are only half as numerous as fifty years ago, and absolutely there are to-day 1,911,430 fewer Roman Catholics in this kingdom than in the earlier years of the Queen's reign.

"If we look at the rest of the world, it would appear that from every standpoint and by every test, Romanism is continually going down, down. Take, for example, the area of the planet dominated by the Greek, the Roman Catholic, and the Protestant Church. Relatively the Greek Church occupies 18 per cent. of its surface, the Roman Catholic Church 28 per cent. and the Protestant Church 36 per cent. Take again the populations of countries under the sovereignty of races representing these three sections of the Universal Church; 128,000,000 are ruled by representatives of the Greek Church, 242,000,000 by representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, and 520,000,000 by representatives of the Protestant Church. Take once more the languages specially identified with the different faiths. Spanish is spoken by 42,000,000, French by 51,000,000, Russian by 75,000,000, German by 75,000,000 and English by 130,000,000.

If the policy of converting the Church of England and bringing under the rule of the Pope were to succeed the event would go far to even up balances and to leave matters relatively much as they were a hundred years ago. But whatever may be the result so far as a section of the Church of England is concerned the English people cannot be brought again "under the yoke." A people accustomed to the free air and the clear light of evangelical Protestantism cannot revert to the Greek or Roman churches any more than as citizens we would choose to be governed by mediaeval or oriental methods.—Pres. Witness.

Prohibition of the Liquor Trade.

A prohibitory law aimed against the trade in intoxicating beverages, and fairly enforced, can accomplish something, in the judgment of Hon. George E. Foster. This is his summary:

"(a) It can pronounce the verdict of the country's disapproval upon a ruinous and baneful traffic, and thus brand it with public disgrace.

"(b) It can relieve the country of the sin and responsibility of turning its sober children into drunkards by virtue of an Act of Parliament, and for a money consideration.

"(c) It can put away all public temptations to drinking and drunkenness, and thus make it as easy as possible for all to grow up into sober and honorable citizenship.

"(d) It can prevent men, whom no moral consideration seems to influence, from making it their sole business to induce their fellows to tipple and drink, so as thereby to live upon their degradation and ruin.

"(e) It can elevate law into righteousness, and thus make it a continual teacher and supporter of sobriety and justice."

PERSONAL.—Mr. J. T. Hawke, editor of the Moncton Transcript, has gone on a trip to Europe. His health, which has not been robust for some months, will, it is hoped, be much benefited by the trip.

REVIVED HEATHENISM.—Japan is waking from a thousand years slumber. She has thrown off her old habiliments, and is preparing to renew her youth, and take her place among the great powers of earth. Her civil and political life has been largely regenerated. This movement has reached, to a greater or less degree, the people in all sections of the empire and they are displaying more enterprise in whatever their hands find to do. These activities are the direct or the indirect results of Christianity, and we are accustomed to think that Christianity is reaping the rewards in a special and peculiar way. The fact is, other things are being stimulated and pushed forward as well. Even the old heathenism is taking on new life. The Buddhists are building new temples, employing more priests, adopting the methods of Christianity in Sunday school, summer conferences, young men's Buddhist associations, women's work, the publication of magazines, tracts, etc. Many of the best thinkers have lost faith in Buddhism, and look to Christianity as the coming religion of Japan. This is a great testimonial to the religion of Jesus, since it is only about thirty years since the first convert was baptized. Now the number has grown to 40,000. But there are now millions of Buddhists and these Christians must save. It can be done only by increased power and activity on the part of those who will work with the Saviour to save the Island Empire from the death of revived heathenism. Rel. Telescope.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease." Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

Voices from India.

Hark! From far distances voices are calling;
Hushed be earth's clamor, be silent and hear.
Thrilling the heart with sad cadences falling,
Come the appeals in their syllables clear.
India's daughters, in cloistered zenanas
Knowing no song but the breath of a sigh,
While we are chanting our joyous hosanna
Send o'er the ocean their heart-breaking cry.
Lips that are muffled yet utter their story,
O the sad plea of their multiplied wrongs;
Grim superstition, grown ancient and hoary
Shuts in dim prisons these languishing throngs.
Little child-widows' with piteous pleading,
Beaten and scorched with no hope of release,
Call to us blindly, their woes interceding,
Claiming from us the sweet message of peace.
—Julia H. Johnston, in Mid Continent.

—A teacher in one of the public schools of Scotland receives a salary of a thousand dollars. She lives upon half and with the other half maintains a missionary in China.

—A rich woman in Louisville sold her house and moved into a smaller one that she might curtail expenses so that she could have the more to give to send the Gospel to all the ends of the earth.

Miss Marietta Bailey, aged eighty years, was baptized December 30, 1842, and continued a member of the First Baptist church in New Haven until her death. She has left her property, valued at \$15,000 to her church, one-third of the annual income to go to Home Missions, one-third to Foreign Missions, and the remaining third to such objects as the church shall choose.

The Widows of India.

Dr. James Dennis, in his work recently published by the Fleming H. Revell Company, thus describes the lot of the widow in India:

"The condition of the Hindu widow is, almost without exception, a lamentable one. The chief features which make her fate a hard one especially if she is widowed in childhood, are that she is immediately obliged to shave her head, is forcibly deprived of her jewels and ordinary clothing, and made to wear for the rest of her life a dis-

tinctive garb, which is a badge of humiliation. She is allowed to eat only once in twenty-four hours, and every two weeks is required to observe a strict fast, omitting even the one meal. It has been decreed however, by the highest religious court of Hindustan, that if, acting on medical advice, the widow on these fast days should drink a little water it may be condoned. Her person however is held in contempt, and even her touch may be considered pollution. Her widowhood is regarded as an affliction brought upon her in punishment for heinous sin, in a previous state of existence. If it comes upon her in childhood, she must grow to years of maturity with the painful consciousness of her isolation and unhappy ostracism shadowing the early years of her life. She is forever an object of suspicion, and is looked upon as capable of all evil. She is the victim of special temptations, and is often driven to a life of shame through sheer self loathing and despair.

According to the census of 1881, there were in India at that time 20,938,626 widows. The census of 1891 reports 22,657,429, but as this report was given with reference only to 262,300,000 out of a total population of 287,223,431, if the same proportion holds, the total number in all India would not be less than 25,000,000.

Nearly every fifth woman in India is a widow. This large percentage may be traced directly to the customs of early marriages, and to the stringent prohibition of re-marriage. For such as these the missionaries plead, so that by learning of Christ they may be emancipated to preach him to their people.—The Christian Herald.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.—The Sunday Magazine says: "No enterprise in newspaper publication can go beyond that shown by Mr. Moller, who lives and works among the Eskimos. To begin with, the people for whom the paper was intended could not read at all. Mr. Moller established himself in an office at a place called Godshoof, and the early numbers of his venture contained nothing but pictures. He is his own distributing agency, and twice a month straps on his skates and starts on his journey through the country with a good supply of papers. By degrees he put in an alphabet, then a few words, and in time whole sentences appeared. When he went on his rounds the natives had a good opportunity to ask questions they wished answered. They have made such rapid progress that the journal now contains important articles which are eagerly looked for. The newspaper can claim, then, a double distinction; it is the paper published nearest to the North Pole, and its editor could only get a circulation by teaching his subscribers to read."

AT HIS OLD WORK.—On the strength of well authenticated information, The Times' correspondent at Vienna confirms the reports of atrocities committed by the Turks on Bulgarians on the Macedonian frontier in a search for arms. It can be confidently stated that no fewer than 500 were imprisoned and beaten, and twenty to thirty cruelly tortured. The Times' Constantinople correspondent learns that hundreds were imprisoned, some killed and many horribly tortured, while gendarmes pillaged houses and outraged women and children as they pleased. Bulgaria is pressing for reparation, and is supported by Russia and Austria. The Sultan is pouring troops into Macedonia, and has ordered Edhem Pasha to proceed thither from Thessaly. It is likely that an insurrection will break out in the spring.

Parliament.

MONDAY.—The first remarks made in the house to-day had reference to the late Mr. Dupont to whose character and service Sir Charles Tupper, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier testified.

Many motions for papers were passed. The house took up the resolution of Mr. Jamieson of Winnipeg in favor of the appointment of a board of railway commissioners, with power to enforce the railway act and make general provisions in the public interest.

The debate on the resolution was continued in the evening, mainly by western members.

Mr. Blair had no declaration of ministerial policy further than the question of regulating or controlling freight rates and other matters on private railways was under consideration.

THURSDAY.—The commons went into committee on the Yukon railway bill. Sir Charles Tupper stated as all the bill had been discussed on the second reading, he thought there was no disposition to delay the proceedings by discussing them over again.

The bill went through committee in an hour.

The house was in committee all evening on the bill consolidating the steamboat inspection laws.

WEDNESDAY.—Mr. Fisher asked for the suspension of the rules and great expedition for his bill to protect Canada against the introduction of the insect pest. It prohibits the importation of nursery stock of all kinds from countries or places where this pest exists. The minister explained that the bill was especially applicable to the United States, where San Jose scale existed. He wanted the bill hurried through, because if delay took place hundreds of carloads of nursery stock would be across the line.

Sir Charles Tupper commended the course of the minister. Nearly all members who spoke supported the bill, all on the ground of the health of the Canadian fruit stock, and some on the general ground of protection to home interests.

Mr. Charlton protested against the bill as unjust to the infected districts in New York and also involving economic protection.

Mr. Ellis opposed the measure on the same ground.

The bill passed the three readings and was sent to the senate.

Replying to Mr. Powell, Mr. Blair said Engineer Crossdale had reported on the diversion of the International to Springfield, N. S. The government could not see its way clear to do anything.

Mr. Powell was told that A. Bowles was dismissed from the position of car inspector of Springfield, N. S., for offensive partisanship. He had been twenty-five years in the service, and was a competent man. There was no investigation, but the action was taken on the representation of Mr. Logan, M. P. Moses Leger was acting in his place. Mr. Powell was also told by Hon. Mr. Blair that A. Steward was dismissed from the position of tank man at Springfield after twenty-four years' service. Offensive partisanship was the cause, but Mr. Blair did not know on whose representation.

The Yukon bill had its third reading. Mr. Charlton proposed the second reading of his bill against Sunday newspapers. This bill forbids the issue, sale or preparation of newspapers on Sunday.

The discussion continued till nearly midnight, when progress was reported.

THURSDAY.—Mr. Parmelee explained his bill to prohibit improper speculation in butter and cheese.

Mr. Foran explained his insolvency bill had been moved to introduce this measure by pressure of the Montreal board of trade and other business associations.

The premier stated that if the commons were disposed to accept the bill the government would give it all possible facility.

Mr. Marcott moved for a committee to inquire into the alleged resignation of Mr. Bruneau, whose notice was said to have been sent to the speaker and returned unopened.

Premier Laurier asked for a day to reflect.

Chacton's Sunday bill went through committee. Hon. Mr. Fisher to help the bill through, withdrew his amendment which prohibited the sale in Canada on any day of papers issued on Sunday.

The bill was reported as it stands, the bill now forbids the sale in Canada of all Sunday papers, wherever they may be printed.

FRIDAY.—The house spent most of the afternoon on the bill about steamboat inspection, and the evening on weights and measures bill.

Mr. Marcott again brought up the matter of Bruneau's resignation. Premier Laurier asked for another day, as the law officers had not yet finished looking into the matter.

We can pray always, but will not do so unless we have a regular hour for secret communion.

Among Exchanges.

How THEY DO.

Many people put great reliance in "Jesus paid it all," even so far, seemingly, as to expect Him to pay their obligations to the pastor and their subscription to the church paper!—Chris. Messenger.

NEITHER DO THEY!

Over the Dyas trail all sorts and conditions of men are passing; but no finer thing will happen there than the act of the Indian mother who, caught in the storm, scripped herself almost to the skin while she kept her baby warm and safe. She was discovered kneeling in the snow, with the unharmed baby in her arms.—Chris. Register.

A somewhat prominent church member, in a public discussion, recently, said in a flippant way: "I do not read any church paper." Doubtless Colonel Ingersoll, Kid McCoy, and all saloon keepers can say the same. Thomas Paine, when questioned concerning his knowledge of the Bible replied contemptuously, "I keep no Bible." Men generally indicate what they read by what they say and do.—Rel. Telescope.