

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligence.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20TH, 1898.

Note the man who acquires the most money, or the highest place politically, is not the most successful, but he who gains the most manhood and does, according to his power and opportunities, the most useful work among men.

Strange as it may seem, there are very many members of churches to whom it, evidently, has never occurred that they are in the church to do something. They are glad to be members, they expect a good deal of attention from pastor and fellowmembers, they understand that others have duties, but they never think to bear a burden or make a sacrifice. There is need of much teaching of church members the duty and privilege of christian service.

The Pope has been very much concerned lately to prevent war between the United States and Spain. He has sought to be a mediator between the two nations. His desire to preserve and promote peace is quite praiseworthy. But isn't it a little strange that he seems never to have thought about the inhuman treatment Cuba has been receiving from Spain? As soon, however, as there is danger of his dear Spain being checked he is greatly solicitous to prevent bloodshed, &c., &c.

Dr. Joseph Parker says he is not so anxious as some are, and as he himself used to be, to answer infidels. They are scarcely worth answering. He feels more concerned about Christians who are asleep and would like to go about awakening them from their unworthy and dangerous slumber. He wishes for a true revivalist, who will awake men from sleep and make them ashamed of their do-nothingness. Were he the constructor of churches he would never allow any man to be a church member until he pledged himself to give one-tenth of his income to Christ. Such a course would, no doubt, reduce the church roll, but it would increase the church efficiency. Self-taxation in money, in service, sacrifice at some crucifying point—that is christianity. Truly, the church's chief difficulties and gravest dangers are always in her own condition.

Into some of the churches new members have been received recently. These early days of the newly converted are a critical time in their experiences. They need careful teaching just now, and to be tenderly cared for and led. The character of their christian life may depend a good deal upon the treatment they receive from pastors and older church members in these first weeks of their christian faith. Many a young christian has wondered at the sudden lack of interest in him after he has become a member of the church. One said of a pastor, "He gave me no peace till I joined the church; since then I have not seen him, except in the pulpit." Pastors and the older christians should be as concerned for the establishment of the new converts as to win the unconverted. Instruct, counsel, encourage them. "Feed my lambs."

What the Roman yoke means to sensitive spirits, especially when the faculty of independent thought has not been entirely crushed is vividly shown in a letter in a French paper from M. Paul Percheron, who recently left a convent to enter the ranks of Evangelical Protestantism in France. He says:

I have known and borne the torments and combats which are the history of all cistercian saints. How is one to endure the arbitrary and often contradictory decisions of men who pretend

to have the Divine Spirit, but whose human pettiness with all its caprices and varieties is only too visible! How can one here, without anguish, these thousand decrees which come from sources so multiple and diverse, those of Rome with her congregations, of the Pope with his Encyclicals and decrees, the innumerable canons; those of the 'holy rule,' of the superior, the confessor, the director? One is to obey; salvation and perfection are in obedience. And so prescriptions rain from every quarter on one poor little human will, whose every movement and every minute are thus solicited and worked upon; pulled often, in fact, in exactly opposite ways! What conscience that has any scrupulousness or delicacy is equal to such a position?

Having shaken off these fetters, M. Percheron believes in a kingdom of God, whose realm is humble and contrite hearts.

Toward Sodom.

Lot made a grave mistake when he "pitched his tent toward Sodom." He failed to counsel with God, or to consider the spiritual interests of himself and family. He thought only of the present apparent advantage—the good pasture for his cattle; other and higher considerations were shut out of his mind. Later, he knew how wrong he had been; and he and his suffered for it.

There is frequent repetition of Lot's conduct in this day by those who are the Lord's people. Some of the ways in which it is done are set forth.

A professing christian has pitched his tent towards Sodom, when he is so taken up with his daily work that he neglects prayer—secret prayer and family worship. Neglect of prayer and communion with God deadens his conscience and disposes him to compromise with wrong, as he meets it in daily business, and makes him an easy prey to the adversary of his soul. Lapsing with sin on the part of christians generally begins with neglect of prayer. Prayer, unceasing prayer, is a necessity of the christian life.

Habitual neglect of public worship is a movement toward Sodom. God claims that His people wait on Him in public worship. To disregard God's claim in this respect, must be attended with great loss to both ourselves and His cause. It may be, and often is, urged that business demands are so great that the Sabbath has to be given to rest, and that there is no week-night that can be spared for worship. But such plea is without real foundation. No business claims can justify neglect of spiritual interests. Let thought be justified in his choice. Time and experience showed his great mistake and sin. No one has any reason to expect different results, in character, to follow disregard of God. Every christian, when tempted, under what ever pressure, may well stop and consider all that is involved in what he is thinking to do. He will surely see that he can trust himself and his business to the Lord; and that real trust requires simple and unquestioning obedience to the Lord's commands.

The expenditure of large amounts on his family and himself, for their personal gratification, while only a pittance is devoted to the support of the Lord's cause at home and the spread of His truth throughout the earth, is a sign of a going toward Sodom. Of course, judgment should be always exercised in the disbursement of the money entrusted to us. We are stewards responsible to God for what we do in this, as in other things. The christian's duty in the support of the institutions of religion is made quite clear in the word. Alas! that there is so generally a poor conception of the duty privilege and, therefore, of the blessedness of "honouring the Lord with our substance."

Failure to co-operate with the church to forward God's cause shows a strong tendency towards Sodom. True believers are the servants of Christ, and labourers together with God to advance His Kingdom. Those who refrain doing their part, practically deny their profession of faith and love, and cast their influence with the world. "To every man his work," is the divine order; and each must do his part or suffer loss.

PERSONALS.—Dr. Higgins, professor of mathematics at Acadia college, will retire at the close of this term. Prof. A. E. Caldwell has also resigned and has gone to Astoria, Oregon, to fill a position.

Allen Hoban, son of Supt. Hoban of the Canada Eastern railway, has been awarded a \$300 fellowship by the University of Chicago. He is a graduate of the University of New Brunswick, and is at present studying theology at Newton, Mass.

Rev. J. W. Wadman, Methodist Missionary in Japan, formerly of this Province, is coming home this summer. He has been gone nine years

Notes on Current Events.

Cardinal Taschereau died, at Quebec, on Tuesday night of last week. He was 70 years old. He had been in poor health for three or four years, and unable to administer the affairs of his high office. He was made Archbishop in 1870, and was created a Cardinal in 1886. He was the first and only Canadian Cardinal.

The scheme for the federation of the Australian colonies is to be submitted to a vote of the people of the several colonies affected by it. While it is hoped that all the colonies will accept the federation, the scheme will not be void if some of the colonies should refuse to approve it. If three colonies accept it, their federation will take place; and the others can join when they are disposed. It is provided that the federation scheme must be accepted in each colony by a minimum vote so substantial as to preclude the possibility of any change except by a resolution of the people. In New South Wales the minimum required has been raised from 50,000 to 80,000 votes, in an adult male population of about 400,000. In Victoria a minimum vote of 50,000 is required, in an adult male population of 370,000.

The body of Miss Frances E. Willard was cremated on the 9th inst. in Chicago. The cremation was, it is said, in accordance with her repeatedly expressed wish.

The public schools of Minneapolis are to close the last of this month—six weeks earlier than the usual time, because there is no money to carry them on. The closing of the schools will, it is thought, save the School Board enough to pay its present obligations and accumulate enough to open the schools again in September. But meantime 30,000 children are out of school, and a large number of teachers are out of employment, many of whom may seek positions elsewhere. It is not a nice condition of things for a city like Minneapolis.

According to the Boston 'Herald' the woman suffrage movement has suffered a number of reverses within the last two years. The 'Herald' gives a list of the reverses, which includes the defeat in various forms of measures for the extension of suffrage to women in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Massachusetts, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island; and in Kansas the defeat of a bill giving women the right to vote for Presidential electors, in Kentucky and New Jersey of a bill giving them the right to vote for school officers, and in Vermont of a bill conferring municipal suffrage upon them.

The Outlook, commenting on the reverses mentioned, thinks they furnish a reply to two of the current arguments in favour of woman suffrage. One of these arguments is that woman suffrage is surely coming, and, therefore, it is not worth while to go against it. The facts given do not appear to assure its coming. The other argument is that it is unjust to deny suffrage to women. The vote in Massachusetts, where only about one woman in ten could be found to declare that she wished to vote, and the vote in New York, Iowa and other States, where suffrage amendments were defeated by vigorous opposition from women, indicate that the real question, in the present state of public opinion, is not, Shall we refuse the suffrage to women who demand it? but, Shall we impose the suffrage on women who protest against it?

Of over 9000 voters on the St. John city voting list, more than one third are this year disqualified by non-payment of their taxes, and will not be able to vote in the civic election this week.

The United States government, which has bought a number of ships, is looking for more. It is stated that the Prince Rupert, sailing between St. John and Digby, and the Prince Edward and the Boston, sailing between Yarmouth and Boston, are sought to be purchased, their owners having been asked to name the price at which they will sell.

It is the New York Journal which says this concerning the British flag: "American citizens in Havana are now quite safe—because the American Government is not represented there. Our officials being all withdrawn, American citizens remaining are under the protection of the British flag."

And note this: While they are under the British flag, nothing will happen to them. The Spaniards will not shoot them nor blow them up, and no unfortunate accidents will happen to them.

"We are not particularly proud of this, but as it is a fact, it might as well

be announced for the comfort of those who have relatives in Cuba.

"Might we not arrange on some cash basis for putting American citizens all over the world under the care of England?"

The rush of people west has been so great that there are, evidently, many unemployed in the towns on the Pacific coast. Letters from many who are there advise their friends to remain at home, for the present at least. The Mayor of Vancouver has felt it his duty to caution the people of the east against going west, because there are more men there now than there is work for.

The Plebiscite Bill is promised to be introduced as soon as the budget debate is over. At a caucus of the Liberal members of the House on Friday the character of the proposed Plebiscite bill was considered. The feeling among the members was strongly in favour of a straight question as to the prohibition of the liquor traffic, without any questions or suggestions about loss of revenue, taxation, compensation &c. It is hoped the bill will be framed in accordance with the feeling of the members.

Hon. Mr. Hardy, Premier of Ontario, is in poor health. It is intimated that he may soon retire from political life, taking a judgeship. In the event of his retirement Hon. G. W. Ross would likely succeed him in the leadership of the party.

The last victory of the British under Sir Herbert Kitchener, in the Sudan opens the way to Khartum. The defeat of the Dervishes was most decisive. They lost 2000 killed, and 4000 were taken prisoners, among the latter being the General, Mahmod. The British loss was comparatively small. The complete collapse any day of the opposition to the British advance upon Khartum is not improbable. At any rate the conquest of the Upper Nile Valley is no longer an uncertainty.

The President's message to congress was worthy the head of a great nation. It set forth the fact that with a view to ending the Cuban horrors all the resources of diplomacy had been used, without results. The President's request of Congress was stated thus:

In view of these facts, and of these considerations, I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government, capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, ensuring peace and tranquillity, and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States, as may be necessary for these purposes.

The House of Representatives promptly passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the president is hereby authorized and directed to intervene at once to stop the war in Cuba, to end with the purpose of securing permanent peace and order there, and establishing, by the free action of the people there, of a stable and independent government of their own in the island of Cuba."

"And the president is hereby authorized and empowered to use the land and naval force of the United States to execute the purpose of this resolution."

The Senate gave itself up to speech-making for nearly a week, and on Saturday passed a set of resolutions with a clause recognizing the independence of Cuba. The Senate's resolutions cannot be effective without the concurrence of the House. The independence of Cuba clause is the objectionable one, and it is not probable the House will concur. On Monday the task of adjusting the differences between the two branches of Congress began.

The war feeling in the United States continues strong, though a large class of the most thoughtful people are hoping that actual war may be averted. In Spain the feeling against conceding United States demands is strong. There has been talk of intervention in behalf of a peaceful settling of the trouble by the European powers. Spain, however, is not likely to listen to any suggestions which require making Cuba independent. Whatever the government of Spain, with knowledge of the hopelessness of gaining anything by war, might be disposed to concede, they fear to do so for the Carlists are ready to take advantage of anything that may seem like weakness on the part of the government. The Carlism leaders have declared their readiness to stand by Spain and its government in case of war; but they will quickly profit by what the populace would call cowardice—a yielding to United States demands.

The Chicago Bible Institute.

The Summer Session of the Bible Institute is approaching and a few words concerning the work is appropriate.

A feature will be the course of study conducted by the eminent teacher Dr. J. M. Gray, of Boston, whose past work at the Institute has proven very popular and instructive.

Dr. Gray is the author of what may be termed the Synthetic Study of the Bible—a plan which is rapidly taking hold of the people of this country. In addition to the large number studying along this line in the West the past winter, other large classes, numbering 3000 or more, have been organized and taught—the majority of them—under Dr. Gray's personal charge. He is one of the best Bible teachers we have ever had at Northfield. He has been preaching in Dr. A. J. Gordon's pulpit for nearly two years. Last year he was asked to take charge of the Bible work in East London Institute for Home and Foreign Missions.

It may be of interest to state that he had a class of 1000 or more Christian Endeavorers in connection with the Boston Union, and that the Boston Leagueers are contemplating a similar class under his instruction next season.

So much for the unacquainted with Dr. Gray as a teacher.

The course of study, as planned by him, will deal in a plain and popular way with three subjects:

1. Bible Introduction.
2. Christian Evidences.
3. Homiletics.

Under the first head, the authenticity of the books of the Bible and the formation of the Canon will be considered.

Under the second will be taken up the Inspiration of the Bible.

The third will embrace a consideration of the principles of interpretation and the preparation of sermons, Bible readings, etc.

As nearly as possible the three divisions above will cover the nine o'clock hour for the four months evenly, about five weeks being given to each, so that students from a distance if necessary, can make their choice in advance.

The eleven o'clock hour will be devoted to the Synthetic Study of the Scriptures. Beginning with Genesis, each book will be studied as a whole, and as seen in relation to other books. The method will be read under prescribed directions, and broad outlines made in the class-room with the aid of the black-board. In the four months the whole Bible practically will be covered as follows: June—Pentateuch and Early Historical Books. July—Prophets and Later Historical Books. August—Gospels and the Acts. September—Epistles and Revelations.

The regular work of the Institute embraces a study of the Bible in course, and Doctrinal teachings by Dr. R. A. Torrey, Missionary and Bible History Course, by Mr. W. R. Newell, Harmony and Notation Course in singing, by Prof. D. B. Townner, Musical Course by Prof. Edward Howells and Vocal Culture Course by Prof. Warren C. Coffin.

Thus will be presented an excellent opportunity for combining a study of the Bible and a course in singing and music under able and popular instructors. Students will find it advantageous to arrange for this course, while pastors, assistant pastors, and all other Christian workers who can get off for the Summer, will find it very helpful.

I should be glad to hear personally from any who contemplate attendance.

D. L. Moody.

Chicago, April 6, 1898.

It Was a Mistake.

Olneyville, R. I., Apr. 11th, 1898.

Dear Bro. McLeod:—I am not surprised that you should think the item in the 'Star,' which you quoted in the last INTELLIGENCER, was mine, the two names are so nearly alike. I am sorry to disappoint you and all my N. B. friends; the truth is I am not the man (Sherwin), and am not entitled to any credit of that good work.

You are at liberty to say that we reside at Olneyville, R. I., and that I am not in the pastorate, though I have the care of a mission interest to some extent, preaching once each week. I supply churches occasionally, of about all denominations, except the Catholic, and, if called upon by them, in an orderly way, would be glad to supply any of their churches. Having some time to give to it, I have been doing some work also for the past year or two in connection with the New England Sabbath Protective League.

We are doing what we can to aid our children in their school work and to do any humble service for the Master, as the way opens from time to time.

There was an impressive service in the Olneyville Free Baptist church last evening. After an appropriate Easter service, by the Sunday School, Rev. J. M. Lowden, pastor of the church, bap-

tized twenty persons, the youngest of whom was our son, Howard, whose age is ten.

Very Truly Yours,
B. A. SHERWOOD.

[One good thing has come of the mistake—a letter from Bro. Sherwood. More frequent communications from Bro. S. and the other brethren "abroad" will be welcome.—Ed.]

General Religious News.

—The official year book of the church of England shows that the clergy are growing poorer. Between 1895 and 1896 the salaries of the English clergy were diminished by no less than \$60,000.

—The second anniversary of the organization of the Volunteers of America was celebrated a few days ago. A great deal of good work has been done. The leaders and their officers are full of hope for the future.

—Baptist missionary work was begun among the Kiowas, a wild, savage tribe of Indians, in 1892. It has been continued since, with resultant changes in the condition of the tribe that are really astonishing. The people have become quiet, industrious, and do a good deal of farming and domestic work, with their homes made comfortable and happy. Conversions have occurred at every tent meeting. 'Camp meetings have been held every year, with glorious gatherings.' 'A number of the brightest and best educated young men are earnest helpers and workers. Some of the chief men, who used to be uncontrollable, fierce fighters, leaders in war, raids, and hostilities, have meekly yielded to the power of the Gospel, developed into excellent Christian characters, and become towers of strength in the upbuilding of the churches.' The movement among the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, lately begun, is correspondingly encouraging.

—Whatever differences of opinion there may be concerning the controversy between the Salvation Army and the Volunteers, there can be no question about the goodness of the work undertaken by Mrs. Ballington Booth in connection with prisons. Her visits to the prisons of the various States and her talks to the inmates form one of the brightest chapters of recent efforts in philanthropy. Her illness for a time interrupted the work, but she has now recovered sufficiently to take up a part of it again. What she calls "Hope Hall" is a place for the help of those who have been in prison but who are desirous of a new start in life.

—The numerical increase of the Disciples of Christ in the United States is remarkable, for not only is the percentage of growth greater, than that of any other of the large denominations, but, unlike them, the Disciples have no constituency from which to draw recruits by immigration. The comparative growth, says the Outlook, and total numerical strength of the great Churches present much food for thought. The various Churches of the United States made a gain last year of 630,951 communicants—an increase of two and one-fourth per cent.—giving a total Church population of 25,919,927. The Baptist and Methodist bodies each gained one per cent.; the Catholics, Presbyterians, and Congregationalists two per cent.; while the Protestant Episcopal Church gained three per cent., and the Lutherans four. But the Disciples of Christ report a gain of five per cent., which is more than double the average increase in the United States. For the past eight years the average gain has been a little over 40,000 annually, and if the average is kept up during the next two years the Disciples will have gained during this decade at least eighty per cent., and will report by 1900 a membership of 1,170,000. From present indications this will easily be done. The gain last year was 47,407, and during the four months since the last General Convention more than 50,000 have been added to the churches of the Disciples of Christ.

Home Religious News.

—The Presbyterian General Assembly of Canada is to meet in Montreal, June 8th.

—Rev. T. H. Blenus, pastor of the Christian church in Halifax, is intending to resign, and will remove to Florida.

—Special meetings are being held in the Albert St., Baptist and in the Reformed Baptist churches in Woodstock.

—The two Canadian Presbyterian missionaries who started for the Klondike, have arrived at their destination. A gentleman built a hall for their use, and they are holding gospel meetings.

—Rev. H. W. Stewart, pastor of the Coburg St. Christian church, St. John, has tendered his resignation, having been seven years in charge of the church. The church has asked him to withdraw his resignation.

—In Hants Co., N. S., there are several families of Mormons. There is at least one Sunday School where the children are trained in Mormon doctrine. The 'Pres. Witness' notes that it is in places remote from the active efforts of evangelical churches that Mormonism springs up.

—The Canadian year, which ended in point of conversion work—one of the ended the year, one fund which the relief of aged which has a March receipts general purpose

—A four weeks at Lord's Cove, sulted in much ity. The Christ received 101 new by baptism. converts, it is families. The ducted by Eld Hants, N. S. meetings at Le

—Rev. Dr. the Canadian ing statistics of Maritime Pro years: In ordained minist 11,662 members 18,506 members, 287 churches; in 187 churches, 36, 236 ministers 471 members, 414 churches. The growth more rapid than an emigration. In 1849, the had six prof 101 students. To-day they ment, and property—furnishings, eight protest

Denom CHEGOGGI blessing us 3rd, I adm converts, w received int Apr. 3rd.

From R write you b each friend money that of a countr I reach m many who but there a be its regu how mem get along good cause the field. without t paper? V first thing ational Ne the gene news of w then ther Cuyler, t from Doc whom giv and help I find it A few we Beaver H to spend last day to St. Jo witho the city Carleton which ga ing go Next da The fir stormy, week; I evenings Sunday, and I be Sunday and a v It looks for a ha younger would li But my work a be con hope by so that vicinity

From nearly from a sore-th attack before, month years from from more sation fined Every botto the te is my forbid