

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 agent as well as to the proprietor at Fredericton.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER Box 884, Fredericton, N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4TH, 1899.

The "Intelligencer" makes its forty-seventh annual bow to its readers, and wishes them a good year.

There is a movement on foot or the establishment of a Protestant review in Italy.

Dr. Cuyler says that the young convert who does not open his mouth within thirty days after conversion is apt to be "tongue-tied" the rest of his life.

We will be glad to have bro. Gosline write on the topics he mentions in his letter in this week's denominational news. And we are sure our readers would be interested.

It has been estimated that nine-tenths of all contributions for christian purposes are given by one-tenth of the membership of the Christian Church.

Support of missions does not interfere with the support of the local work of the church. Practical interest in mission work increases, instead of decreases, interest in and support of local christian work.

The officers of the committee, in charge of the Canadian Presbyterian Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund announce that there is in hand \$15,000 less than is needed for this year though more than half the year is gone. A special appeal will be made to the churches in behalf of this fund.

There is no better evidence of a genuine revival than an increased desire for religious literature. The newly converted will want the religious paper, for they are anxious to know of the Lord's work elsewhere, and they desire, also, the instruction and stimulus which good religious reading gives.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Montreal did a good thing when he appealed to the newspaper publishers of his own church against sensational journalism. He pointed out the dangers of it, and entreats the publishers to set themselves against it. His voice ought to have influence with those whom he addressed.

The unabated hostility of Roman Catholicism to the circulation of the Bible, even in a Catholic form, amongst the laity, came out very clearly in an occurrence which took place a few weeks ago in a country church in Italy. The priest, observing that a little girl had a book in her hands, asked her what it was. When she answered that it was a Bible which a friend had given her he snatched it out of her hands with the words, "I forbid you reading such a book." It was a version, too, which is supposed to be sanctioned by the Roman Church.

A great effort is being made to save St. James Methodist church, Montreal, which is burdened with a debt of \$620,000. The church has property valued at about \$800,000. To save the church it will be necessary to raise about \$300,000. Subscriptions aggregating \$100,000 have been made; and now an appeal is being made to Methodist churches and people in every part of Canada. St. James is really a magnificent church, but there must have been some magnificent endeavoring to get it so heavily in debt. It is worth saving though, and we hope our brethren may succeed in their undertaking.

How the people rule is thus set forth by the Free Baptist:

They shut their eyes to facts. They pray for direction in every thing but politics.

They let political tricksters make nominations after which they have to vote contrary to conviction or leave their party.

They listen for the ward boss crying in the saloons and streets,—"If you don't vote for the party candidate the other party will get in power."

They vote for what they don't want because they can get it.

They elect men to office whom they know will perjure themselves when they swear to perform their official duty.

They get up monster petitions to these "honorable men," begging them to do what they were elected and sworn to do.

They calmly watch the officials work their offices to get more money, to buy more votes, to win better offices, to get money, to buy more votes, to win better offices, etc.

When these officials come up for re-election, the people who have known their perfidy, their self-seeking, their misuse of public trusts, and whose petitions were "considered" but not acted on, vote them into office again,—to save the party!

The description is of the manner of the people's rule in the United States; but the picture would not be essentially different if made for Canada. There is, however, a ray of promise in the increase of the independent vote.

New Year Purposes.

A Christian life contemplates a jealous care of one's own best interests, a conscientious refraining from injury to another, an unselfish promoting of others' welfare, and a reverential regard for God. The beginning of a year is a seasonable time for renewing one's attentive discharge of these duties. One should continue or begin:

To earn an honest living. "Not slothful in business."

To obtain from luxury and softness. "Six days shalt thou labor."

"Make not provision for the flesh to fulfill the lusts thereof."

Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things.

"Let your moderation be known to all men."

To curb the desire for riches. "The love of money is the root of all evil."

"How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of heaven."

"They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts."

To be generous. "Go and sell that thou hast and give to the poor."

"Distributing to the necessity of saints."

"The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

To treat the body properly. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost?"

To keep the body in good tone and in action on exalting thoughts.

"Whosoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things."

"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

"In understanding be men."

To have noble aims. "Seek those things which are above."

"Seek for glory, and honor, and immortality."

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God."

To lead a life of devotion to God.

"Give me thine heart."

"Seek ye the Lord while he may be found."

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ."

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart."

To be at peace with all men. "First, be reconciled with thy brother."

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

To be abundant in good will and service to others. "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

"Be kindly affectioned one to another."

"Overcome evil with good."

"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you."

M.

Christmas Presents.

Among the ministers who received Christmas presents were the following:

Rev. J. D. Freeman, Baptist, this city, \$60.00 from the S. School.

Rev. J. A. Gordon, Main St. Baptist, St. John, an oak sideboard and a hat-rack.

Rev. David Long, Victoria St. Free Baptist church, St. John, \$71.00.

Rev. Mr. Beathy, of the Peoples Mission, St. John, \$100.

Rev. J. J. Teasdale, Methodist, this city, a fur-lined coat.

Rev. Jas. Crisp, Methodist, Carleton Place, St. John, a gold watch.

Rector Wales, Sussex, fur cap and gloves.

Rev. A. H. Campbell, Presbyterian, W. terford, K. Co., a sleigh.

Rev. Mr. Dykeman, Baptist, F. river, a fur cap.

Rev. W. R. Perry, Free Baptist, \$50.00.

Notes On Current Events.

The Premier of Newfoundland, Sir James Winter, who was a member of the International Commission, has since his return from Washington, intimated that there is little or no prospect of a settlement of the fisheries and reciprocity questions.

President McKinley has named Archbishop Ireland as the United States representative to the disarmament conference of the nations called by the Czar. The archbishop has signified his willingness to accept the appointment if the Pope will consent. The Pope is not likely to object. The wisdom of the President's appointment is likely to be questioned.

The enforced idleness in New York prisons is having a very bad effect on the prisoners. Already some of them have had to be transferred to asylums for insane criminals. The Warden of one of the Penitentiaries expresses the belief that scores of the convicts under his care are on the verge of insanity.

Senator Morrill, of Vermont, died in Washington on Wednesday. He was, both in years and in public service, the senior member of the United States Senate. He was eighty-eight years old, and had served in the Senate continuously over thirty years. He took an active part in public affairs up to the last, having spoken in the Senate only a few days before his death.

Mr. Beaupre, an ex-Mayor of Montreal, has just returned from France. In an interview he gives a glowing account of affairs in that country. From his statement one would never get the impression that there is any excitement in France over the Dreyfus affair or anything else. Referring to the Fashoda matter, he thinks the British position wrong. It is quite worthy of note that whenever a question arises between England and France, the sympathies of the French Canadian is with France. He is a good enough British subject to desire to enjoy all the privileges which belong to British citizenship; but so soon as his beloved France is touched he forgets Britain.

On Thursday of this week the International Commission is to meet again in Washington. The meeting is not expected to be a long one. The Independent says, upon what it regards as trustworthy information, that "the Commissioners will agree upon a treaty covering the questions considered except tariff reciprocity. A few tariff concessions, it is thought will be made, but these will be of very little importance, and will fall far short of the schedule of reductions desired by Canada."

The Census of Russia, just completed, shows a population of nearly 130,000,000. The sexes are divided thus: In European Russia there are 100 men for every 98 women. In the Polish province there are 98 women to every 100 men; in the steppe there are 89; in the Caucasus also 89; and in Turkestan, 93. There are 19 cities which have over 100,000 inhabitants, and 35 which have from 50,000 to 100,000. In 1892 the empire only included 108,500,000 inhabitants. The Chinese Empire and the British Empire have alone a greater population than Russia. China has 402,000,000 and Great Britain 315,000,000.

The Swiss have just voted to make a uniform criminal code for the whole of their republic. It will be curious to see how they will avoid the chief rock on which their schemes of the kind have previously been wrecked—the question of capital punishment. In 1874 they abolished this all over Switzerland; but in 1879 Schaffhausen, though one of the most Radical of the cantons, agitated for a return to the gibbet. It was accordingly decided to have local rule in the matter, and several cantons re-enacted capital punishment. But in the whole of the last twenty years Switzerland has only witnessed two executions.

It did not seem possible that a three-cent letter rate from point to point in Canada could continue long after a two-cent rate from Canada to other parts of the Empire had come into operation. The thing was too absurd. On Friday announcement was made that, beginning with the New Year, Canadian postage is reduced to two cents. The official announcement is that on and after January 1st 1899 "the postage rate payable on all letters originating in and transmitted by post for any distance in Canada for delivery in Canada shall be one uniform rate of two cents per ounce weight."

The Imperial penny post system which came into operation Christmas

day, is between Great Britain and the following places:—Aden, The Bahamas, British Central Africa, British East Africa, British India, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Lagos, Leeward Islands, Natal, Newfoundland, Niger Coast Protectorate, St. Helena, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Straits Settlements, Trinidad, Tobago, Turk's Islands, Uganda, and Windward Islands.

The negro problem is not the only one which the Southern States have to face. There is, says the Journal and Messenger, the problem of "the poor whites, whose position is due in part at least to the existence of slavery. Throughout many of the mountainous districts in Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee may be found people far behind the civilization of the age. The condition was pathetically stated by a bright white boy who desired an education. In the vernacular of the mountains, he said that the Northern people sent down teachers and established schools for the negroes, but that there was no opportunity for the white boy of his class. The one-room cabin often occupied by an entire family, while not to be compared with the one-room for a family in the slums of the cities, is never heless responsible for much of the evil. There have been many efforts, through societies of religious denominations and by individuals who have become interested, to do something for the elevation of this large class, known as "the poor whites," in the old slave States, and it is a question that ought to be squarely met. The women are perhaps the greatest sufferers. In certain localities many of them marry young, and by reason of the small one-roomed cabin and the surroundings, die of consumption before they are forty. Many of them long for more knowledge, but are helpless to get out of their mode of life. In many localities they need to be taught housekeeping. There is no doubt that a broader and higher life is open to these people by means of education.

Friends of the INTELLIGENCER cannot show their interest in it better than by prompt payments.

Watch.

BY DR. T. L. CUYLER.

Some bells require to be rung very often. As there is constant danger from certain quarters, so there must be constant warnings. When our Lord repeats an admonition five times over within the space of a dozen lines, we may be quite sure that He regarded it as one of supreme importance. If we turn to the thirteenth chapter of St. Mark, we discover that He repeated His injunction to watchfulness several times, and then closed His solemn discourse with the sharp stroke on the alarm bell, "I say unto you all, Watch!"

Those of us who have crossed the ocean in a steamship have always gone down to our berths on a dark night with a more comfortable sense of security from having seen a "lookout" posted on the ship's bow. It is the business of that sailor to do two things, namely, to keep wide awake, and to report instantly any glimpse of a vessel or an iceberg before the steamer's path. His signal is the security of every soul on board. Conscience is the lookout on the bow in the voyage of our life. Some people with sinful infatuation put conscience at the stern; it may utter its shriek of remorse when the sin has been committed and the craft has struck the temptation which stoves in the bow. But a conscience that can do no more than moan and weep over sins already committed is of little worth; for even that process is a very hardening one if continued too long.

I have observed one very undesirable fact in my own experience and in my observation of others; this fact is, that everything depends on the manner in which first sins and first slips from the right path are treated. If a first false step is promptly met by a thorough repentance (as in the case of Peter's lie in Pilate's Hall), there the mischief ends. The soul soon receives its healthy tone, and is sometimes the wiser and stronger for its sad experience. But if the first sin is followed by a second and a third and fourth, without any contrition before God, then conscience soon becomes benumbed and powerless. In time it is seared as with a hot iron. This is the case with those professed Christians who lapse into sensual vices, or who are detected in dishonest defalcations or branches of trust. All these men could have been easily saved right after the first transgression; but when that was passed without compunction, the rapids soon whirled them over the abyss. It is astonishing to observe how fast sin will abduct even a Christian conscience.

It is the office of a healthy conscience

not only to feel compunctions when wrong has been done, but to detect sin in advance, and to sound the alarm to the will, which has its hand on the helm. The truly righteous man has just as many temptations floating across his weather bow as the ungodly or the backslider has. The difference is that the good man's conscience detects the danger and gives the signal to the will to "steer clear" of the enemy. Nay, more; such a conscience reports the danger to God in prayer, and prompt help comes from heaven to the hand on the helm. Wherefore the Master commands us to both "watch and pray."

The best preventive against spiritual assault and overthrow is to keep up constantly the tone and fiber of a truly godly character by perpetually living close with God. Multitudes live as if there were no God in the broad world. They act as if the Master were away and would never return. "Blessed is that servant whom, when the Master comes, he finds watching." It is not only the enemy whom we are to be looking after, but our Lord himself. I never know when He will come to impeach my poor work, or when He will come with the orders to drop the tools into the grave. But a perpetually vigilant life of communion and hard study and holy intercourse with Him will keep us ever ready for "the last call." If we watch thus for Him, He will be ever watching over us, and then no deadly danger shall ever befall us. It ought to be not only a duty but a delight to be watchful. For there are so many mercies constantly in sight, so many opportunities to do good, so many beautiful views of God's providence, and so many foretastes of heaven, that we lose more than we can afford to if we fall asleep on our homeward way. Can we "not watch with Him one hour?" It will soon be over.

Send a new subscriber with your renewal. \$2.50 will pay one year for both.

Home Religious News.

The churches in Carleton, St. John, have arranged with evangelists Martin and Gordon to hold a series of meetings, commencing next week.

Three union prayer meetings are being held in this city this week—one each in the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist church. The Bible Society meeting is Thursday evening, in the Church Hall.

OF ABSENT ONES.—The Morning Star tells us that Rev. H. Lockhart (a former Nova Scotian) has resigned as pastor of the Chelmsford St. church, Lowell, and accepted a call from the Chelsea, Mass., Free Baptist Church, to take effect Feb. 1st, 1899.

From the same source we learn that Miss Edna C. Wile made a very interesting missionary address in the place of the usual sermon in the Warren St., Boston, Free Baptist church last Sunday morning. She presented charming glimpses of the romance as well as of the hardships, of the joyful compensations as well as of the discouragements connected with mission life in our India field. A collection was taken in further observance of the day as "Foreign Mission Day."

A GOOD WORD AND DEED.—This is what one subscriber says and does: "Enclosed find \$4.50. I am glad to be able to send this now. I hope to be able to take the INTELLIGENCER as long as I live. May God prosper it." We would be glad to hear from many others in the same way.

A NEW DEPARTURE.—It is proposed by the immigration branch of the Department of the Interior to send a woman to Great Britain to encourage the immigration of girls for domestic service, to Western Canada. Mrs. Sanford, of Portage La Prairie, is the lady named for the mission.

CATHEDRAL BURNED.—St. Georges Cathedral, Kingston, Ont., was burned Sunday morning. Insurance \$25,000. There is a debt against the property of \$30,000.

POLITICAL NEWS.—Two bye-elections were held in Ontario last week. Nipissing returned a Liberal, and North Hastings a Conservative.

There is still talk of the possibility of a Provincial election very soon.

Mr. J. W. Carmichael, who represented Picton in parliament, has been appointed to fill the senate vacancy caused by the death of Senator McFarlane.

A GOOD REQUEST.

At the foot of a laundry bill was a polite and reasonable and excellent request that would apply to all secular and ecclesiastical business: "If work is satisfactory, please tell others; if not, please tell us." Let us all, everywhere, to everybody in everything, at once and always practice that—Phil. Standard.

Denominational News.

FROM REV. W. H. PERRY.—Perhaps it is about time I wrote something for the denominational news department. Unfortunately I have nothing very interesting or exciting to write about. After spending five years on Grand Manan, we had the friends there good-bye. We had a beautiful passage to St. John in the "Flushing," and next day took the Steamer Star for Hampstead, reaching there early in the day; the friends at Little River took their teams and moved our stuff to Hibernia the same night. What proved to be a long and hard job on Grand Manan was a short and easy job at this end of the journey; "many hands make light work." We found the house much the same as other vacation houses with which we had had experience—it needed repairs. During the time repairs were being made we were guests of Deacon A. E. Slipp, Central Hampstead, Mr. David Gardner, W. N. Kerson Esq., and Deacon J. Davis, of Hibernia; and we found very pleasant in these kind homes. We are now living in "our own little house," rather pleasantly situated in Hibernia. The friends will notice the name is an old one, and is suggestive of hospitality; we trust our friends will come and see for themselves; would rather they would not all come the same day, but on different days, and often. This place in some respects is like Jerusalem of old. Perhaps had better say how, or we might have a large immigration of Jewish peddlers to this place, which, I fear, would neither pleasant nor profitable for people. Jerusalem had mountains around about it, and I suppose the joining community received its name on that account, for there are mountains or very high hills around about it and on the very top of it; and are living at the edge of Hibernia with only a mountain between us and the Pole. I have come to the conclusion that it is a nice thing to have a mountain between one and the North Pole. The wind that blows from Greenland, or some other cold place strikes the Jerusalem hills before it reaches us, and has its edge somewhat. Since the snow can have found this pasture much warmer than Grand Manan. This month has been beautiful sleighing. Very pleasant as I go around at the people to hear them speak in high terms of their former pastor, G. W. Foster; he has a large place in the affections of the people, and think highly of him for his work. The spiritual condition of this place is not what we would desire in all the churches there are faithful ones looking to God, hoping and praying for brighter better days. The congregation is increasing in all the churches. The Lord grant that this may be a year with all our churches, and God may be glorified in the salvation of many precious souls.

W. H. PERRY.

Hibernia, Q. Co., Dec. 1898.

BARRINGTON, N. S.—I have posed, ever since settling with people to write to you. But the time for writing has been so short that I have not been able to do so. I have had a great deal to think of, and I have been so busy that I have not been able to do so. I have had a great deal to think of, and I have been so busy that I have not been able to do so. I have had a great deal to think of, and I have been so busy that I have not been able to do so.

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Sussex, Dec. 27th, 1898.

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