

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. JOSEPH McLEOD D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18TH, 1899.

Editorial and other matter has had this week to be set aside for the Conference report.

Only one-tenth of the Cubans can read and write.

A deepened spirituality is the great need of the Church.

The church that does not stand for righteousness in the individual, in the home and in the community is not true to Christ.

When a man refrains from supporting a cause because those favouring it are in a minority, he shows that he is a moral coward.

How much they can get from God—not how much they can do in His service, is the great concern of many people.

not those who are talked about the most, especially not those who say much about themselves, are the most useful. The best and most useful people are usually the most modest in thought and speech about themselves and their work.

A most important fact is suggested by Phillips Brooks in these sentences:

"There are two ways of defending a castle; one by shutting yourself up in it and guarding every loophole; the other by making it an open center of operations from which all the surrounding country may be subdued. Is not the last the truest safety? Jesus was never guarding himself, but always invading the lives of other with his holiness. There never was such an open life as His; and yet the force with which His character and love flowed out upon the world kept back, more strongly than any granite wall of prudent caution could have done, the world from pressing on Him. His life was like an open stream which keeps the sea from flowing up into it by the eager force with which it flows down into the sea. He was so anxious that the world should be saved that therein was His salvation from the world. He labored so to make the world pure that He never even had to try to be pure himself.

Conference Notes.

Large space in this issue is being given to the report of Conference. We had hoped to conclude the report this issue, but at this writing it looks as though some of it may have to be held over, the space at our disposal for this purpose being unequal to the demand upon it.

We are this year giving more attention than usual to what members of Conference said on various questions under consideration. The reports of speeches are, necessarily, brief, but it has been endeavored to give in each case the gist of what was said. Of course there were many speeches, longer and shorter, which are not mentioned. To report everything would have required a staff of shorthand writers; there was but one reporter, and he not a stenographer.

That no minister of the Conference had died during the year was cause for thankfulness; and the brethren bowed gratefully before God, and acknowledged His great goodness in preserving the lives of His servants. Some of the brethren are drawing near to the end of their work on earth, but most of them are kept in remarkably good health, and are able to preach and do other Christian work, in a good degree, which is cause for gratitude. The ministers who were absent on account of age and infirmities were not

forgotten by their brethren, who talked of them in love and mentioned them in their prayers. Nor were they forgotten whose attendance was prevented by other things than age and infirmity. Their presence was desired, and it is earnestly hoped that next year they will be found over-coming whatever difficulties, real or otherwise, which be in their way, and assembling with their brethren in annual Conference.

The weather during the session was delightful. Except on Friday the day of the Ministers' Conference, every day was summer-like. If good weather contributes something to the enjoyment of a public gathering—and it certainly does—then, the Conference this year owes a good deal to the fine weather.

The pastor, Dr. Hartley, on behalf of the church and congregation, gave a hearty welcome, not only to the members of Conference, but to all who attended the session. And the hearty hospitality of those who entertained the members and visitors fully justified the welcome spoken. Every body was cared for—and well cared for.

The church building had undergone a thorough renovation, including the repainting and decoration of the interior, making it a very attractive and pleasant place of worship.

The Saturday conference was a refreshing meeting. A large number participated in the praise and testimonies. Sunday was a day of much interest and real spiritual power. Besides the sermons in the church where the Conference was held, the other Free Baptist churches in the city and several Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches were supplied with preachers. From all of them reports came that the preaching was good. The Christian fraternity manifested and encouraged in this way is one of the best things.

The corresponding delegate from the Nova Scotia Conference, Rev. T. H. Siddall, and, also, the visitors from that Conference, Revs. G. M. Wilson and F. S. Hartley, and Rev. R. Heine, of the Vermont Yearly Meeting were cordially received, and made to feel quite at home. The fraternal delegates from the Maritime Baptist Convention, Rev. Dr. Gates and Hon. H. R. Emmerson, were, also, warmly welcomed, and listened to with interest and pleasure. Several ministers of other denominations—Revs. Dr. Keirstead, J. H. Hughes, E. W. Kelly, Ira Smith and C. Higgins (Baptists), Rev. Mr. Burgess (Presbyterian), Rev. Mr. Penna (Methodist), Rev. Mr. Trafton (Baptist), visited the Conference, some of them at several sittings. The courtesies of the Conference were extended to them, and those of them who spoke uttered words of Christian sympathy and love. The Conference was glad to see and hear them.

The Transvaal War.

Fighting has commenced in South Africa. On Wednesday last, President Kruger issued his ultimatum, demanding in effect, that Great Britain should in forty-eight hours withdraw all her troops from the Transvaal borders, and, further, that she cease to land troops in her own South African colonies. There could be only one reply to such absurd and insolent demands, namely, that Great Britain could not even discuss them. A declaration of war by the Boers followed on Thursday, and since then the air has been full of rumors of the movements of troops, fighting, etc.

It is of course, exceedingly difficult to obtain accurate information, but it seems to be certain that an armoured train, which either was or had been carrying women and children, ran into a culvert, opened by the Boers, and upon being derailed was destroyed by artillery fire. Fifteen British soldiers are said to have been killed. Such an incident indicates the barbarous character of warfare that may be expected from the Boers. A report is current that in three attacks upon Mafeking, which is in charge of British troops under Sir Stewart White, the Boers were each time repulsed with heavy loss, and that the British loss was slight. This may or may not be confirmed.

Kimberley is besieged by the Boers, and all railway and telegraphic communication has been cut off. They are it is said, making every effort to effect the capture of Cecil Rhodes, and report says that a reward of \$50,000 has been offered for his capture, dead or alive.

The Orange Free State has cast in its lot with the Transvaal, which is, perhaps, all things considered, not the worst thing that could have happened.

The Dutch, including those in Cape Colony, have in all ways possible set themselves against the British, and have worked together to weaken and destroy British authority in South Africa. Great Britain has been patient, almost too much so it has sometimes seemed. Her patience has been construed to be weakness and fear, and the conspirators against her have grown bold and insolent. Everything has been done by the British government to avert war; but now that the Boers have declared war and actually begun fighting, all the matters that have caused irritation and threatening are likely to be settled. There will not be a Majuba Hill ending of the present fighting. It is deplorable that there is a resort to arms, but since Great Britain has no alternative, it is desirable that the war be pushed with vigour to a speedy and decisive ending.

The British colonies have shown their interest in the Empire by the readiness with which they have offered to contribute to the army for the South African war. There is no less of loyalty to the Empire in Canada than in the other colonies, as has been shown by offers of service from every part of this country, and the impatient eagerness to go, which has been manifest for many weeks. Among certain sections of the population of Canada—the French and the fenians—there has been and is strong opposition to Canadian participation in the war. The Quebec French papers have spoken very plainly and strongly against the government making any offer of a Canadian contingent for the South African campaign; and certain French members and supporters of the government have spoken in the same way. These influences, unhappily seemed to prevail with the administration, and no offer of a Canadian force was made. A few days ago it was announced that the government would consent to those going who wished, up to the number of 1000, and would pay their expenses to the place of disembarkation. The Quebec French papers are boasting that all that has been done is to permit volunteers to go, and that they have done it in response to request from the Imperial authorities. This is not what Canadian feeling desired to do; it desired to be represented by a distinctly Canadian force, offered to the Queen. And such a force could have been raised in twenty-four hours any time since the first war cloud appeared. There is no thought that Great Britain needs colonial help, but her loyal subjects in the colonies want to show their love for the Empire in their readiness to share in the fightings as well as in enjoying its protection and glory.

Notes On Current Events.

A London despatch says that Sir Louis Davies, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who has for some time been in England on official business, authorizes the announcement that a temporary arrangement has been made in the Alaskan dispute. The terms agreed upon, he says, are simply a line drawn across Chilkat Pass, delimited by the river and mountain top. It has absolutely no significance except that we hope thereby to avert local friction. Canada relinquishes no claim by her assent to this temporary arrangement, and she has not the slightest intention of allowing her original contention to lapse into obscurity. How long the temporary arrangement will continue cannot be stated.

Among the more thoughtful United States citizens the feeling against "imperialism" is strong and apparently growing. A league is being formed to check, if possible, the growth of imperialism, and to point out the dangers to the republic of the enlargement of the military power. Such men as Hon. Carl Schurz, Dr. Parkhurst and W. D. Howells are promoters of the movement.

Those who have made the complaints of the indiscriminate sale of liquors at some of the Ontario military camps are not intending to let the matter drop. They have been rebuffed by the Militia department at Ottawa. The investigation they asked for was refused, and it was intimated that their complaints were frivolous and unfounded. The London, Ont. News, in a recent issue, makes statements about liquor selling at the camps in a damaging way to the militia authorities. The sale it says, was so open and general that everybody must have known of it. The least the Militia department can do is to order an investigation. This will have to be done, sooner or later.

The United States government is using a Roman Catholic archbishop to endeavour to settle the Philippine islands' trouble, which so stubbornly

resists settlement by fighting. Archbishop Chapelle, of New Orleans, who is the papal delegate to the Philippines, has had an interview with President McKinley, and he says they understand each other perfectly. His errand, he states, is one of pacification, and he hopes to accomplish what the army of the United States has failed to do—to bring peace to the islands. Rome seems to be running things across the line somewhat as it runs there here.

The St. John Telegraph has been sold to the recently formed Publishing Co. Instead, therefore, of publishing a new paper, as was intended if the Telegraph owners would not sell, the new Company will publish the Telegraph. The transfer will take place November 1st.

Home Religious News.

—Rev. G. W. Schurman, of Bear River, N. S., has been called to the pastorate of the Tabernacle Baptist church, Halifax.

—St. Mary's Cathedral (Roman Catholic), Halifax, having been freed from debt, is to be consecrated this week.

Denominational News.

FROM REV. J. PERRY.—By my forgetfulness I failed to send a report of my labours for the past year to the Corresponding Secretary. As many of my friends would like to hear from me I take the opportunity of writing these lines to the INTELLIGENCER. Immediately after General Conference last year, I took the Rockland pastorate, which has six churches, viz. Rockland, Mount Pleasant, Gordonville, Windsor, Knowlesville and Foreston. To this first five named I preached once in each, every two weeks; the last one being separated quite a long distance from the others, and the roads not being good in the winter, I did not attend there much. The cause was spiritually low when I commenced, and it is about the same yet, although we have very good meetings and our congregations are fairly good. There are no great difficulties in any of the churches peace prevails, but there is a lack of faith and labour, and, consequently, too much "ease in Zion." I often feel to say, with the Psalmist, "Why art thou cast down, why art thou disquieted? Hope thou in God, for I shall still praise Him." We are looking for better days. I have partly engaged with the same churches for this year. My health is very good for one as old as I am. There is a good deal of hard work in travelling, as I have ten miles to travel every Sunday, and preach three times. If I am spared I shall continue to preach until I am 91—three years more, and then I shall retire, if I can, that is if I feel that my work is done. In looking back over the past fifty seven years of my life all the satisfaction I have is in what I have done in the cause of religion.

JOHN PERRY.

MINISTERS.—Rev. T. O. DeWitt will preach at Wickham next Sabbath morning (22nd inst.), at Bald Hill in the afternoon, and at the Lake Meeting house in the evening.

Rev. Abram Perry is about moving to Salisbury, to occupy the new parsonage there. His correspondents will make note of the change in his P. O. address, which is now Salisbury, W. Co.

Rev. J. Noble will be at Campbell Settlement, York Co. next Sabbath morning (22nd inst.), and at Middle Southampton in the evening.

Before leaving for Conference the church at Coverdale gave the pastor, Rev. A. Perry, a present of \$20.00.

Recently friends of Rev. G. Swim and wife, who have just retired from the Millstream pastorate, were presented with \$16.80 by their friends, in token of esteem.

Rev. J. A. Robertson and Mrs. Robertson have gone on a visit to Boston. They will be absent several weeks. Bro. R's churches—Fredericton Junction and Tracey Station, are being supplied by Licentiate Knollin and Dunfield.

Rev. F. G. Francis has declined the call to Moncton. He remains with the Petitcodiac-Cornhill pastorate.

The INTELLIGENCER office had calls from Revs. J. N. Barnes, E. B. Gray and L. A. Fenwick, on their way home from Conference.

WESTFIELD, K. Co.—Sabbath, Oct. 1st, Rev. H. A. Bonnell baptized two converts. Bro. Bonnell has retired from this pastorate, and Licentiate Puddington has been chosen pastor. The pastorate includes O.K. Point, H. Milton Mountain, Brown's Flat and Westfield.

The position of Italian bourses, which has been serious for some time, says a special despatch from Rome, resulted in a veritable crash Wednesday.

Several banks and large firms are in a serious condition. The losses are estimated at some hundreds of millions of lire.

(Continued from page one.)

weeks with the churches on Grand Manan. His labors were greatly appreciated. He could not remain longer, having to take charge of his school at Hartland.

These brethren have all laboured faithfully, and while we cannot report as much success as we would desire, we believe the good seed sown will bring forth fruit to the glory of God.

The means at the disposal of your Executive were so limited that they could not give assistance to all whom we desired to help. There is need of greater liberality on the part of all our churches toward the Home Mission fund, as the success of our denominational depends upon our looking after and strengthening our weak interests. We would recommend the continuance of the office of General Secretary, believing it will be in the best interests of our denomination.

The adoption of the report was moved by Dr. McLeod, who spoke of the mission work of the fathers, in the face of great difficulties, and of our indebtedness to their faithful labours. He mentioned the resolve of the Disciples of Christ, at their recent annual meeting in St. John, to raise this \$1500 for home missions—which is about \$1.00 per member, and urged that our churches must greatly increase their contributions if they would do anything near what is required of them in this department. At least \$2500 ought to be raised for the work this year.

Rev. J. W. Clarke seconded the motion to adopt, making a brief but earnest plea for larger liberality toward this part of our work. Commending those who do their part well, he had to point out that a much larger number manifest little or no interest. Some churches apply for help, though they are quite able to help others. He spoke of the wisdom of the appointment of a General Secretary, and believed much good had already resulted, good which would increase year by year if the work is continued.

Hon. Geo. E. Foster said it is difficult to conceive of a live church without a live home missionary interest. Whenever one is found without such a mission, that church has become simply a club. The life of an individual can be measured by the amount of fresh effort he puts forward. In a similar way one can measure the life of a church. Referring in warm terms to the fine work done by the fathers, he said the home mission work of the to-day is on a different plane from that in the time of the fathers. It is divided into two parts, one, to enter the half-developed fields and bring them up to strength. This work can be done in every church, but the church which only tries to keep what it has, will soon be unable to do this. There is a necessity to open new fields and in the doing of this new possibilities are brought to view. There is not a single church but what has unutilized forces sufficient to revolutionize that church. The young people for instance. A few years ago the league was formed to utilize this great force.

There is not a single man who is not able to do good work for the church. Young people should be taught that they are part of the work. In the church there is need of money, the fuel supply for the engine. By systematic effort, taking hold of the unutilized forces great things can be done. The further consideration of the report was deferred.

BAPTIST DELEGATES.

Rev. Dr. Gates and Hon. H. R. Emmerson, delegates from the Maritime Baptist Convention, being introduced, conveyed the fraternal greetings of their body in felicitous terms.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson, President of the Baptist Convention, said it was a genuine pleasure to be present and to convey the good fellowship of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, and their sympathy with the work of the Conference. He had sometimes been asked what he was denominationally, and replying, a Baptist, had been asked "What kind of a Baptist?" Sometimes he had been puzzled to explain, and then had wondered why there are several kinds of Baptists. He thought it would be better if they would all get together. Listening to the discussions, or reading the reports, he judged the Free Baptists were having the same struggles the other Baptists have had, especially in questions financial. Speaking of the unused forces in the denominations he thought if these could be marshalled and united that great good would surely result. He trusted such union of forces might be realized some day.

Rev. Dr. Gates knew his Free Baptist brethren pretty well, and was very glad to be one of the bearers of the Christian greetings of his denomination to them. In the Maritime Provinces there are 400 Baptist churches, with 50,000 members. He recalled the meetings of a few years ago about union. He was then strongly in favor of such union, and time has only increased his feeling. If in union is strength, why not have it for God's cause? He thanked God for the spirit

of unity which grows steadily, would rejoice when all Baptists one. God hasten the time. From heart he prays for the prosperity of the work represented in the Conference.

The Baptist brethren were given cordial welcome, and listened to with much interest.

FOREIGN MISSIONS REPORT.

Rev. G. F. Currie, Corresponding Secretary for foreign missions, presented the following report:

BROTHER MODERATOR:—In presenting to the Conference this report, Corresponding Secretary of the Executive of Foreign Missions, I cannot more than as I have done on similar occasions, express deep regret that we are not doing more as a denomination in Foreign Mission work. We are failing to measure up to the full height of our responsibility in this, the appointed work of the church. Such failure means not only loss of precious souls who might have been rescued, but it means disobedience to our Lord, who commissioned us to disciple all nations. The consequences of such a course are, perhaps, far more serious than we know, or than we even care to contemplate and admit.

But wasting time mourning over past mistakes would only be adding another mistake to the long list. Tears nor sighs can call back the precious opportunities of the past year. So let us commit to Jesus Christ the work done, and also, the work undone, assured that for the good we have done His commendation, and for the evil His hope for His loving forgiveness.

It is for us now, with new courage to look up, and look ahead, with present and future privileges confronting us. And if we do, we will see that our Blessed Lord called the attention of the disciples to, when he said, "Ye have not yet four months and then cometh harvest. Behold, I am unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Now, the question is, are we willing to even look over the whitening harvest fields? If we could, on the one hand view the Foreign Lands, as their doors open to us,—see the grand triumphs of the gospel, already, in transforming savages to civilized Christians,—recognizing the fact that we may give to the heathens the one thing they need most which is the gospel; then, on the other hand, listen to the words of Jesus Christ, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and again, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." We would at least know our duty, and decide to what our course shall be in the matter as the opening dawn of another year, with its sturdy demands and grand privileges, opens to us.

Is it not true that if the church is to advance and occupy new ground, or be aggressive at all she must be aggressive in Foreign Missions? Unless she is satisfied with being, merely, an aggressive proselyter. What home church does more than care for its own? To do more, in most cases, is to encroach or trespass on the rights of others. In the home land the ground is more than occupied. If we would go into the "regions beyond," and "build on another man's foundation," if we would "enlarge the place of our tent, lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes," we must go to Foreign fields.

The Executive, at a meeting held year ago, at Sussex, after careful consideration, decided to expend \$500 for evangelistic work at Bhimpoor, India in whatever way Dr. Burkholtz thought best. This amount, as shown by the Treasurer's report, has been forwarded, and expended for the opening up of new work, according to the wish of the Executive. Your Secretary regrets that the Annual Report of the Free Baptist Mission of India did not reach him in time to enable him to give any account of the work done of the Mission field during the past year.

Dear brethren we ought to be both careful and anxious to fulfill our part in this, the grandest enterprise of the Christian church, so that we shall have a share in the general rejoicing when all the missionaries will "come again rejoicing bringing their sheaves with them." The last command of Jesus Christ to his followers can be carried out and if it can be it ought to be. We look to the future hopefully, with courage, believing that the missionary movements of the Christian church, commenced during this century, and increasing in interest and advantages, will never cease until the gospel is preached to every creature.

Rev. A. W. Currie, moving the adoption of the report, spoke of the large importance of the subject. He regretted that the report is a record of doing very little—almost nothing, and, therefore, a record of sinful disregard of the Lord's command. He did not forget that the reports presented at the Conference comprise favourably with those presented to other Christian bodies. But they ought to be better. Some of the failures of Christians are because they do not clearly understand the principles of the Gospel. Every one who can do good, is a debtor to do it; and not to do it is a sin. The captain of a ship who would sail by another ship in distress is execrated because having the opportunity to save the perishing he refuses to do so. God asks us to bless all we can. When we cease to bless others, God's blessing ceases to come to us. The spirit of the gospel is violated if we do not our utmost for the needy. Paul, filled with the Christian spirit, was ready to die for the furtherance of the gospel. So must we be ready to go anywhere and do anything for Him.