

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. JOSEPH McLEOD D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH, 1899.

Do not shirk any duty to which God calls you.

The Baptists of the United States are moving to make Chicago the headquarters of the principal great denominational interests.

May 18th is the date of the meeting of the Czar's Peace Conference. It has been suggested that that day be made a day of special prayer throughout the Christian world.

The International Sunday School Convention is to be held at Atlanta, Georgia, on the 26th-30th of this month. There is likely, as usual, to be a large attendance.

In Germany many Catholics are becoming Protestants. It is a Catholic authority which makes the statement that in Prussia alone 18,000 Catholics became Protestants in 1895. In other parts of the German Empire there is a similar movement.

It was the late Dr. Gordon, of blessed memory, who said,—"In their prodigious efforts to win the world the churches have made the great mistake of conforming to the world." How is it with your church—is it trying to win the men of the world by pleasing them?

Rev. Dr. J. C. Morse who last month celebrated his eightieth birthday, has been pastor of three Baptist churches in Digby Co. N. S. for fifty-seven years continuously. And now, at four score years, he continues to drive through his large field, looking after his flock, and preaching regularly the word of life.

The three classes who favor whiskey are, (1) those who want to get money out of it (the rum-sellers); (2) those who want to get and keep office by it (the politicians); and (3) those who are controlled by their appetite for it (its unfortunate victims). The hardest class to deal with is the second. But they must be dealt with if the victory over the rum power is to be won.

A Prominent Catholic in Bavaria, calling attention to the decline of Catholic countries, urges the free circulation of the Bible as a means to stop the downward tendency. His advice is good. But when the Bible goes well circulated amongst the people, and read by them, the countries non-Catholic will cease to be Roman Catholic. There are parts of Canada greatly in need of the Bible, to save them from destructive bondage.

Replying to a correspondent who asked advice about the best way of raising money for church building, the S. S. Times, amongst other things, said,—"There is no honest and proper way of raising money for a good cause that is to be compared with personal self-denial and earnest effort on the part of all those who are helpers in God's kingdom, knowing its needs, and being privileged to aid in supplying them." It will be a good time for the Church of Christ when this truth is understood.

It is stated that a committee of Russian Jews, of the more cultured class, have been carefully reviewing the character and claims of Jesus of Nazareth; they have reached the conclusion that He was really "the Lord anointed," and that their forefathers made a mistake in His condemnation. It is possible that there may soon be a denial that any such investigation as stated has been made. There are, however, indications of a movement of the Jewish people toward acceptance of Christ.

Religion in Catholic Spain

is defined as follows by a Spaniard: Wearing a scapular on the neck, keeping a basin of holy water at the bed's head, hearing or seeing Mass, not every Sunday, but on certain notable days, fasting on Thursday and Good Friday, removing the hat at meeting the host, kissing the Bishop's ring, taking part in public processions, sending for the priest at the hour of death that he may be able to notify 'he received the holy sacraments.' That is all the religion of the majority of Spaniards. There is no faith, no spirituality, nothing but the religion of the senses.

How much different is it with the devotees of Romanism elsewhere? Of course there are notable individual exceptions, but the tendency of the system is to make such a condition as is described.

This is good advice for some ministers. It is from the Telescope. 'Some pastors administer richly-merited reproof to their half-back-slidden, worldly-minded members, and then take all the edge off their words by apologizing for what they have said, "lest I may have said too much," or "lest I may have hurt some one's feelings." Better, far better not "reprove" or "rebuke" at all than to do so, and then take it back by an apology. Consider the matter carefully, and when satisfied that duty demands that reproof, rebuke, and straightforward admonition be administered, say your say plainly, candidly, lovingly, in the spirit of the Lord Jesus, and then do not take it back. Christ never apologized for the reproofs he administered, nor did any of his apostles, save Paul, and he only when he had spoken without knowing that it was the high priest whom he was rebuking.

Of an Australian bishop it was said recently that he had destroyed his influence. A bad thing, surely, for a bishop, or any other religious teacher to do. What had he done? He had not defrauded anybody, nor fallen into bad habits, nor neglected the duties of his diocese, nor taught any heresy. He had just been faithful and brave enough to speak out the plain but unpleasant truth about the kind of life many of the people were living. He had said that intemperance, profanity and lust prevailed to an alarming extent among the people. He rebuked wrong doers, and exhorted those Christians who were indifferent to what was going on about them to awake to their responsibility. Because he declared the truth in this fashion, the statement went out—originating with the hurt ones, of course—that "he had destroyed his influence." And weak-kneed Christians lamented the "unwise utterances" of their good bishop—and then joined the gang of moral lepers who were bent on doing him to death. It is pitiable that there are such weak and spiritless Christians. They are not all in Australia, either. But for them the Church would be ten fold stronger and more influential. The bishop is sure to be heard from again. Men of his stamp do not die easy; nor is their influence destroyed because they are faithful messengers of truth. God multiply the number of such.

"Away from Rome."

The anti-Roman movement in Austria is attracting attention. The cry "Away from Rome" is becoming continually clearer, and its influence is steadily more widespread. The statements as to the character and underlying motives of the movement are conflicting. It is, so far, largely a political movement. That, however, is not a sign that it may not become more marked in its religious character. The English Reformation in its beginning was largely political. In the Austrian movement the definitely religious element is becoming increasingly manifest. The Evangelical Association of Vienna is occupying itself with the question, and sees in it much promise for the spread of pure religion. At a late meeting of the Association it was shown that the aggressive and over-bearing attitude of the priests in many things had led to many conversions to Protestantism. Amongst Protestants the movement is looked upon as a return to the principles of the Reformation, which had been suppressed by violence; and as an atonement for the injustice done to Protestant Austria in past centuries. The movement is, without doubt, spreading rapidly, and whatever may be said of its political and racial character, it is most significant that this uprising against Rome should have appeared in what has long been so bigoted a centre of Romanism as Austria. The movement is exciting uneasiness at the Vatican, and a council on the subject has already been held. The Catholic bishops of Austria have taken alarm, and are consulting as to what means should be adopted to check

the drift from "the church." But whatever they do, the movement will go on, not only there, but elsewhere. Rome is evidently being beaten in what hitherto have been her stronghold's.

Prohibition in Parliament.

The Legislative and Executive committees of the Dominion Alliance had a meeting, at Ottawa, on Thursday, to receive the report from the sub-committee appointed at a previous meeting to determine upon a course of action in Parliament. There were two reports, the committee having failed to agree. The majority report, presented by Mr. Flint M. P., recommended an extension of the Scott Act making it applicable to Provinces under certain conditions. The minority report, presented by Mr. Ganong M. P., affirmed that a prohibitory law is the logical outcome of the plebiscite, that such legislation should be introduced, and that the extension of the Scott Act would not meet the demands of prohibitionists.

Both reports were discussed at some length, and, apparently, with some warmth, and when voted on had nearly equal support, though both were lost, and the meeting adjourned without anything definite being done. At an evening meeting a new sub-committee was appointed to work out a plan of Parliamentary action. Not having a full report of the meeting before us at this writing we cannot comment on the action taken.

Notes On Current Events.

General Egan, it will be remembered was suspended from the service for six years for gross insubordination and abuse of General Miles Commander of the United States Army. There are some peculiarities about the "punishment" which Egan is enduring. The disgrace of suspension is, of course, something; otherwise, there are thousands in the army who would envy his lot. He continued to draw his salary of \$5,500, the punishment being that he will not hereafter have to work for it. He can go to Europe or retire to his ranch in California and live at leisure. A correspondent of the 'Chicago Record' makes some interesting comparisons. Captain Clark of the Oregon, while absent on leave to recover his health, received less than half the pay which Gen. Egan receives in disgrace. Now that his health is restored, he is assigned to duty, and will receive \$2,000 less. Commodore Philip, of the Texas, in his present responsible and arduous position as Commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, receives \$1,500 less than Egan. Admiral Dewey, while in command of the Asiatic squadron receives \$500 more than the amount with which General Egan is punished, but if he returns, and is assigned to shore duty, he will receive \$500 less, and if, like Egan, he is relieved of any active service whatever, he will receive \$1,500 less. Admiral Schley, while in Washington awaiting orders, is receiving \$1,500 less than General Egan. There is, certainly, great injustice in giving a man, who, according to the verdict of the Court Martial, was to be dismissed from the Army, a larger salary than is given the men who have honoured their country by brave and faithful service. The explanation of Egan's exceptional treatment is, doubtless, to be found in party politics, the "pull" of army contractors, and the influence of the church of Rome.

Southern California, which has long been a resort for consumptives, is beginning to show an increase of that disease. And the residents are wishing that consumptives would go elsewhere, since the business they bring has too many bacilli in it. The travel of many consumptives in the trains is regarded by some as a source of infection to their fellow travellers, and mysterious cases of tuberculosis are attributed to that cause. The time may come when either separate cars, or more frequent disinfections will be required.

The expenditures for the Russian Army have doubled in thirty years \$200,000,000 is the figure this year. No wonder the Czar wants disarmament.

Reports have come from time to time, through unofficial channels, of brutal conduct in various forms on the part of some of the United States soldiers in the Philippines. If the reports are accurate things have been done of the most revolting and barbarous character. There should be official denial of them for the sake of men wrongly accused, or the punishment of the wrong-doers. Every one will hope the reports are false.

A Cancer Society is a recent organization in England. It is giving widespread sympathy, as well it may, for it is high time something was done to systematically fight the dread disease, the victims of which are steadily increasing. The ratio of deaths from cancer nearly doubled in the thirty years from 1864 to 1894. The new Society has mapped a programme which includes the improvement of technical medical education, popular instruction in elementary health laws relating to cancerous disease, the institution of prizes for essays and investigations, the delivering of lectures by specialists, the foundation of a special laboratory for cancer research, the promotion of Parliamentary inquiry and legislation, the collection of statistics and other information, and the establishment of a Cancer Home for persons of limited means.

Throughout Scandinavia, which is warmly sympathetic with Finland, the course of Russia towards Finland has provoked strong indignation. The Swedish press calls on the government to refuse to take part in the Czar's disarmament conference, which they stigmatize as hypocritical, in the face of the decree which contemplates an increase of armament and would attain it by destroying all hope of perpetuating the Finnish nationality, which the Czar is under the most solemn pledge to maintain.

The exodus from Finland has already begun, and is likely to assume large proportions. The young Finlanders are determined to avoid the Czar's decree which provides for an increase of the Russian army and navy, and which extends conscription. Several hundreds of young men reached England a few days ago, and more are arranging to leave Finland as soon as they can.

Another group of islands in the South Pacific—the Tonga group, or Friendly Islands—has been added to the British Empire. The area of these islands is said to be about 400 square miles, and they have a population of 20,000. They are not far from Fiji; and the natives, like the Fijians, are christianized. The present an exaction came about in this way. The Government demanded £20,000 for debts due to German traders. The Tongan Government could not pay, and the German Consul threatened that the principal bay should be seized. A British man-of-war proceeded to the islands with a loan of £25,000 and a flag that will protect Tongan independence. The Germans get their money, and the islands become British.

The conference of representatives of temperance bodies, held in Toronto a few days ago, adopted a resolution approving the principle of union, and recommending the Grand bodies which those present represented to memorialize their respective supreme bodies to consider the question of the desirability of organic union of these three orders in a world-wide organization, or, if this is not deemed immediately practicable, such a union of the orders as far as the Dominion of Canada is concerned. The project will be brought before all the provincial organizations at their next session.

Mr. Tarte, making a statement in Parliament about Anticosti affairs, stated that the Mehodist families at Fox Bay, Anticosti, "are professional wreckers, men who lure ships by displaying false lights, that they may possess themselves of the resulting spoils." This serious charge is strongly and indignantly denied by Rev. Dr. Griffith, Chairman of the Quebec district, and President of the Montreal Methodist Conference. He says Mr. Tarte's statement is a malicious and untrue slur on the people of Anticosti.

The Fox Bay people are declared by the teachers and missionaries who have lived amongst them, to be an industrious, honest and God-fearing people. The whole trouble arises out of the purpose of Mr. Menier, who purchased the island, to drive away the settlers who are not acceptable to him on account of their being English and Protestant. It is a matter of race and religion. And in his crusade against a few English speaking Protestant families, the Frenchman from France has the full sympathy and support of the Frenchmen of Canada, whose feeling and purpose are clearly voiced in the defamatory utterances of Mr. Tarte, their leader. Both the Quebec government and the Dominion government seem very ready to lend a hand to Mr. Menier in his harsh and unjust treatment of the Fox Bay people. Does the fact that they are English and Protestant, and therefore distasteful to Mr. Menier, justify the treatment they are receiving? There is no other reason in sight.

The Dreyfus case continues to be of absorbing interest in France. A great

change in public opinion has taken place, favourable to the unfortunate prisoner at Devil's Island. Yet the anti-revisionists are strong, determined and not particularly scrupulous. There have been recent reports to the effect that Dreyfus has wished to commit suicide, having lost hope of redress. These reports are understood by many to prepare the public for news of his death, which it is believed those who are connected with the plot against him are planning for. If he should die, it would surely be charged to his enemies, and the Government would be held responsible. The government has been entreated to take special care to protect Dreyfus against his enemies.

The plague on the island of Formosa is causing the death of hundreds of people. Hong Kong is infected with the disease, and quarantine of vessels from that port has been established by the Singapore authorities.

Mr. Hazen's resolution setting forth the desirability of a change in the Provincial elections law, providing for a secret ballots, received the support of only five members. Mr. Hazen, in moving the resolution, said he desired it to be considered entirely irrespective of party politics. But the government opposed it and all the government supporters who were in the House voted against it. That the present voting system makes it easy for bribery and intimidation to be used, scarcely any one denies. Even the members who voted against Hazen's resolution would not deny it. Perhaps the government may later propose a change. We hope so, for there is great need of it.

Mission News and Notes

—There are forty-seven Chinese heathen temples in the United States.

—Evangelical Christendom for February affirms that from a missionary point of view the past year has been one of great encouragement. There has never been a year in which such large additions have been made to the number of converts from heathenism.

—In Uganda, Africa, with 10,000,000 population, where twenty years ago there was no missionary, there are now 500 churches, 600 teachers and over 60,000 under instruction. There are 100 native laborers supported by native contributions. In five months 10,000 copies of the gospels were sold, such is their enthusiasm.

—When Bishop Hurst was in Poona some years ago, he went out to the great temple of Parvati, and there watched the worshippers. He asked the aged Brahman priest, who for many years had received the offerings there, "Do as many people come here to pray as formerly?" "No," was the reply, "they are fewer every year." How long will this worship last? asked the bishop. "God knows," was the reply; "perhaps ten, perhaps fifty, years." "What will bring it to an end?" asked the bishop. "Jesus Christ," was the answer.

—Since the British and Foreign Bible Society was organized in 1804 it has spent more than \$60,000,000 in publishing the Scriptures. It has issued 141,000,000 copies, entire or in part, that have been printed in more than 300 languages and dialects. Besides London, Oxford and Cambridge, it runs presses in twelve of the chief cities of Europe, and eight in Asia, besides Cape Colony in South Africa and Sydney in Australia. At the present time it is issuing annually an average of 3,888,000 copies of the Bible or New Testament.

—One hundred years ago this month, sixteen clergymen and nine laymen met in London, Eng., and formed the small organization which soon after developed into the Church Missionary Society. The history of this Society is being published in three volumes. Two volumes have already appeared, and the third is promised for May or June. The congregations of the Society number at the end of the first century of its work only 70,000 souls. In China and Japan the success of Missions, from the religious point of view, is said to be a constantly decreasing quantity, although in both of these countries the missionaries have exercised a vast civilizing influence.

DROPPED TWO DATES.

Robert J. Burdette said recently in a lecture that he had dropped two dates from his vocabulary—yesterday and to-morrow; that he lives in to-day and did not worry about either the past or the future. Such a sentiment, carried into practice, but not indulged in to the extent of carelessness or indifference, would make more sunny places in life. — [Baptist Voice.]

Denominational News.

GIBSON, N. B. — Can it be possible that nearly seven months of our denominational year has passed away to augment the mighty Past. As I begin I am almost shamed by the thought that this is my first letter this year and yet I am encouraged when I remember that many of my superior and more experienced brethren have not written either. However it has not been for the lack of something to write that I have been silent, because my life has been teeming with the rich blessings of God both in my church work and studies.

Since the beginning of our denominational year I have made several exchange with my brethren. The first was with Rev. J. T. Parsons of Marysville. Plainly I could perceive that Bro. Parsons holds a warm place in the hearts of his people. The religious atmosphere of his church is deeply spiritual. I have twice exchanged with Rev. F. C. Hartley, B. A., of Fredericton. In his church are warm-hearted, earnest workers. Many whom I have known since I went to Normal School three years ago. Often has my heart been stirred and encouraged as I have listened to their testimonies. Especially would I make mention of the consecrated life and the earnest prayers and testimonies of our late brother, Deacon Burden, who so recently was called "up higher."

I have also been to McAdam, Rev. Dr. McLeod kindly took my appointments on that occasion. I enjoyed my visit to McAdam very much and was most kindly received by the people. I am glad that they have succeeded in getting a good pastor in the person of Rev. A. W. Currie.

This winter I also had the pleasure of exchanging with Rev. G. W. Foster. In spite of the intense cold and the "grippe" a good congregation met in the morning at the Keswick church. It was about two years before that I preached my first sermon in that church. In spite of that fact they received me kindly and I felt as though I not only had their sympathies but also their prayers. In the afternoon a good audience awaited me at Kingsley, who were eager to listen to the Gospel. In the evening at Douglas I was greeted by a full house who were most attentive as I tried to tell them the "Old story of Jesus and His love." May God bless Bro. Foster and his field of labour.

On Easter Sunday I exchanged with Rev. Gideon Swim. It was a delightful day. In the morning I was greeted by a good audience at Upper Millstream. I was greatly moved by seeing Bro. Z. Gaunce (Father of Miss Gaunce our Missionary) seated in the pew alone. His good Christian wife having recently been called from her earthly home to a Heavenly one. God bless and comfort those who so greatly miss her. In the afternoon I preached in the Snider Mountain Church—where I was taught in the Sunday-school and where I used to listen to the preached Gospel resulting in my conversion. "How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood."

Many have been the charges. May God graciously revive this church, and save the many young people of the community. In the evening I was cordially welcomed by the people of Lower Millstream and preached to a large congregation. Bro. Swim has a large pastorate and may Heaven's benediction rest upon his labours for the Master.

Coming to my own church I think that the rich blessings that have been ours are sufficient to cause us to "thank God and take courage." The best of all is "the Lord is with us." We feel Him present by the Holy Spirit in each of our praise, preaching and prayer services. On the Sunday before Easter Rev. F. C. Hartley baptized and received four young men into our church. The brothers and sisters are earnestly striving to do what Christ would have them. Many hitherto inactive are seeking to give willing and faithful service to their Master. Our young people are doing splendid service. My prayer is that by our united effort with the blessing of God many of the young people of our town may be brought within the fold of Christ and the church. The Sunday-school is gradually progressing. We are glad to welcome among us Bro. Herron and his family from St. John, who were loyal members of Rev. Mr. Clarke's church. True he will greatly miss them. His loss is our gain.

May the blessing of God in its fullness richness and power come to all the ministers and churches of our beloved denomination.

M. L. GREGG.

FROM BRO. BONNELL — I have been holding meetings with Westfield church and he church was much revived.