

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLeod, D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8TH, 1900.

Those who complain against "mistaken expenditure" and such things, in connection with missions, both home and foreign, are usually those who contribute little or nothing to mission funds.

The work of the mission to lepers in India and the East is now carried on in sixty leper settlements. The mission, which has reached its semi-jubilee, reports the work encouraging in every way, and especially in spiritual results.

This week—Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—the Free Baptist Young People's League of New Brunswick will be in annual session at Sussex. We trust they will have a pleasant and profitable meeting—especially helpful to the spiritual life of the members, and so to the spiritual force of the organization.

The London Young Women's Christian Association is doing a great and good work. There are one hundred and thirty branches in the city, and they have 15,000 members. The protection and help afforded young women, who but for it would be wrecked in the great city, are greater than can ever be told. The Christian work done by the Association among girls is being greatly blessed.

That the attractive power of the Vatican is still considerable is evident from the number of pilgrims to Rome for the so-called Anno Santo, or Holy Year. Canadian pilgrims have helped to swell the number. It is estimated that those who have gone in organized pilgrimages number over a quarter of a million, while those who journey independently number about as many, making the total so far more than half a million. But these figures fall far short of those reached in earlier years.

Andover Theological Seminary (Congregational) is reported in a condition of decline. Last year it had only twenty three students, and is likely to have fewer another year. Its decline is not due to lack of funds, for it has an endowment of \$2,000,000; nor to a small or inferior faculty, for it has wise professors who are well-known and distinguished scholars. The trouble is that it has departed from the faith. Liberalism, so-called, so pervades its management and its teaching that it has lost standing amongst the people. While it is pitiable to see the decay of an institution which once stood for so much in Christian scholarship and sound doctrine, it is gratifying to know that sound doctrine yet means so much to the Church and the thinking world.

The morals of the Roman Catholic clergy in South America are bad. This fact was admitted at a Conference of the bishops of that country, held not long ago in Rome. There are, the Interior says, 18,000 Romish priests in South America. Of these 3000, chiefly in country places, are regularly married, having wives and legitimate children; 4,000 live in secret concubinage, having wives under the names of nieces, aunts, wards or housekeepers. Then 1,500 sustain more or less well-known relations to women of questionable character in their neighbourhoods. This last number reported by the bishops is said to be much too small. It is held to be well within bounds to state that more than half the clergy of South America have broken with celibacy. The condition is deplorable. Some Brazilian bishops are bringing in monastic clergy from Europe, and the pope is co-operating in similar efforts at reform elsewhere.

What a sad comment all this is on the boasted celibacy of the priesthood.

The Pope is reported to have felt very badly when he heard of the assassination of King Humbert. Doubtless he did regret the King's death, especially the manner of his death. It is not possible to forget, however, how persistent and how bitter was the opposition of the Vatican to the King's supremacy, and how constantly the agitation against him was kept up, causing frequent disturbances, and even insurrection. It is not strange that there are those who can see a connection between the assassination of the King and the constant and rancorous propaganda of the Vatican against him. Only a couple of weeks ago a detachment of Italian soldiers sailed for China, to join the allied forces there. King Humbert reviewed them on the eve of their departure. It is told that the Pope, being deeply grieved over the murderous deeds in China, was pleased that an Italian contingent was to join the forces there, and he had empowered an ecclesiastical authority of high standing to bestow the apostolic blessing on the departing troops. But when the Pope learned that King Humbert was to take part in the proceedings, he instructed his representative not to pronounce the papal benediction.

The Church Treasurer is an important officer. A good church treasurer is described by the Presbyterian. We wish every church might have such an one. He is a man who recognizes his responsibility, and aims to be a prompt and faithful steward of the affairs entrusted to his care. He not only keeps his accounts straight, but seeks to have on hand the means with which to meet the pecuniary obligations of the congregation. He duly posts the trustees as to the condition of the treasury, and brings delinquents up to the paying point. He does not allow bills to accumulate, but meets them promptly as they fall due. He sees that the pastor and sexton are paid at the date agreed upon. He has a pride in reporting the balance on hand at the end of each fiscal year. Such a treasurer is a credit to his office and a prize worth having in any congregation. He is needed in all our churches. Many of them are suffering for the want of his services. If he was always to the front there would be fewer pastoral unsettlements, and less failures in working the church finances. People would do well to pay more attention to the kind of men whom they put in this responsible position.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

Facts concerning Christian missions in China are of special interest just now. Thousands of native Christians have suffered death for Jesus sake. Many missionaries, too, have suffered martyrdom, while many more have been and are face to face with threatened death. A recent statistical summary shows that there are two thousand eight hundred and eighteen missionary workers in China. Thirty-eight of them are from Canada. Besides those mentioned there are some thousands of native pastors, preachers, colporteurs and Bible women. From about one thousand different points in the Chinese Empire Christian influence has been going out amongst the people. There are schools, orphanages, theological and training schools, publishing houses, papers and magazines, hospitals, and all the institutions and appliances which are found necessary in the great undertaking of evangelizing so vast a population. In spite of everything—and the difficulties and hindrances have been many and formidable, the work of the Lord has prospered in a quite remarkable degree. The present grave troubles are seriously interfering with missionary activities, but they are, also, furnishing a fine opportunity for the display of Christian courage. And missionaries and native converts are growing equal to the most severe test. The sufferings and death of native Christians, and the horrible things endured by missionaries will not turn the Church of Christ from its mission in China, nor deter a single missionary from obeying the call of God to work there. With stronger faith and intense zeal the work will go on a little later. God's purposes will be hastened even by the blood shed of and all the shuddering experiences of these days.

It is attempted to make it appear that the uprising of "the Boxers" and their bloody doings are attributable to the missionaries. The accusation is not true so far as it relates to the missionaries of evangelical denominations. Of course heathen priests and people do not regard with favour the undermining of their religion by Christianity. But nothing done by Protestant missionaries has aroused the anti-foreign feeling which is now showing itself in China. On the con-

trary their course has, in the main, been judicious, and they won many friends. If Protestant missionaries had been the only foreigners, or the only missionaries, in China, the outbreak would, probably, not have occurred; at any rate it would not have been charged to the actions of missionaries.

Those who have the most intimate knowledge of Chinese affairs say that the Chinese are not without very good reason for antipathy against the Roman Catholic priests and their converts. Through the influence of the French Minister, Roman Catholic priests were given the same status and authority as Mandarins. This, naturally, aroused the jealousy of Chinese priests and officials, causing much annoyance and irritation, and the more so as the Catholic priests were often very unjust and overbearing in their exercise of authority. One result was that many natives became members of the Roman Catholic church, and then proceeded to persecute their neighbours with respect to questions of property and privilege, knowing that the Catholic priests enjoying the status of Mandarins would support them in any litigation in which they were concerned. They were only nominal converts, caring nothing for the Christian religion, being influenced only by the considerations named. It is simply another instance of the disastrous effects of priestly meddling in official and political affairs. They are the great mischief-makers of the world. Everywhere the enemy of peace and real progress is Romanism. And every country and every community needs to be on constant guard against the insidious and dangerous thing.

REV. WILLIAM MILLER.

Another Free Baptist minister—the third this year—has been called home. Rev. Wm. Miller, a member of the Nova Scotia Conference, died suddenly, at his home Shag Harbour, Shelburne Co. on the 25th ult. The only information we have about his death has come to us through Nova Scotia papers, and that is meagre. We wish some of the brethren had promptly informed us of the sad event. What we gather from the papers is that his death was very sudden; that a few days before, he had an attack of heart weakness, which, however, did not interfere with his work; that on the day of his death he seemed in very good health, and that while in conversation with friends in the evening he suddenly and peacefully passed away.

In the death of Bro. Miller the Nova Scotia Conference has lost a good man. He came to the denomination from the Methodists, something about twenty-five years ago. The years of his ministry were spent almost exclusively in Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties; he had been fifteen years with the Shag Harbour group of churches, of which he was pastor at the time of his death. He was a strong man physically, and never spared himself in his work. He had excellent natural ability, having much more than ordinary intellectual vigour. He was a man of strong convictions, and of great determination. On temperance and prohibition of the liquor traffic he took strong ground, and declared his views with no uncertain sound. On other moral questions he was equally pronounced, and his advocacy of everything that would contribute to the public welfare was courageous and earnest. He was a man of marked religious convictions, and of deep religious experience. He loved the work of the Lord, to which he knew himself called, and was ever ready to spend and be spent to advance the Kingdom of Christ. As a revivalist he had a good degree of success, and was given the joy of bringing many souls into fellowship with Jesus. He was a diligent pastor, commanding the love and confidence of his people, and of the communities in which he laboured. His churches will miss and mourn him, as will, also, the cause at large, for he was actively interested in every branch of the denomination's work. His brethren in the ministry will miss the presence and counsels of a brother beloved.

The many who knew and loved him as God's servant—and to whom he had been God's messenger of love and help, will deeply sympathize with Mrs. Miller and daughter in their sudden and heavy bereavement. We join in this sympathy, and pray that the gracious help their loved one so often commended to others may be theirs in fullness now.

We learn that the funeral was attended by people from all parts of the surrounding country; that the services were conducted by Rev. J. W. Freeman; and that the other ministers present were Revs. Messrs. Weston, Crowell, Hartley, Wilson, McNinch, Sturges, West, Langille, Halliday and Elyeue.

China.

It was a great relief when word came that the Foreign legations in Peking were alive. The word which was received in London on the 31st ult., came in a dispatch from Sir Claude McDonald, the British Ambassador, dated Peking, July 21st. At that date the legations, except the German minister, whose murder was announced some weeks ago, were alive through sore pressed and anxiously hoping for relief. All the foreign ministers and their attaches were at the British Legation, where a siege was being resisted. For more than a month fighting had been going on. The Chinese Foreign Office attributes all the fighting and bloodshed to insurrectionists, but there is reason to believe that the Chinese Imperial forces are engaged equally with the Boxers in the attacks upon foreigners, including the Foreign legations.

What may have happened since the last word from the imperilled legations no one can tell. They had on the 21st ult., provisions barely sufficient for fourteen days; and their ammunition was short. Their much uneasiness, but some hope.

A movement by the allies towards Peking was begun on Thursday. Nothing very definite is known as to the progress made. A Saturday dispatch said a battle was expected Sunday at Tang Tsun. The Russian and French contingents, according to this despatch, were guarding the communications of the Americans, the British and Japanese, who form the advance column.

The latest dispatches at this writing (Monday) give nothing but rumours. Among the rumours is one via Washington to the effect that the British, United States and Japanese forces are pushing towards Peking, and that the troops of the other nations did not join in the movement.

It is reported from Shanghai that the Foreign Ministers at Peking are held by the Chinese government as hostages and that if the allies march to Peking they will be killed.

Reports continue of the massacre of other missionaries and native Christians.

MISSION NEWS AND NOTES.

—Satan has no anti-missionary elements in his kingdom. If he would be a dying kingdom if he had. He "goes about seeking whom he may devour." He is continually "seeking to find" converts. He is intensely and unceasingly missionary—"like a fierce lion," hungry for his prey (II. Pet. v. 8; Job ii. 7). How can Christians meet and overcome him when they refuse to be missionary in spirit and in practice?

—Great blessing is following upon the Oronge field, which has so often witnessed such marvels of grace. In the week of prayer they asked for 1,000 souls, and already, when the last communication published in the Examiner was sent, 1,016 converted Tongues had been baptized. Have we not become so accustomed, here at home, to expect so little, that our faith cannot lay hold of God for a large blessing?

—"Why is it that Christianity, which made such marvelous progress in its earlier years advances so slowly now? Has the religion of Christ lost any of the power to captivate human hearts which it then possessed, or has the world less need of it now than it had then? No, the religion of Christ is as "captivating," and as powerful now as it was of old. It is advancing steadily and even rapidly. During the present century Evangelical Missions have "added to the Lord" as many Christians as were members of the church when Constantine became nominally a Christian. The progress of modern missions, of Bible translation and circulation, is most encouraging, and is every year becoming more so.

POLITICAL NEWS.—Sir. Chas. Tupper, who has been in England for several weeks, is coming home sooner than he intended. Instead of remaining in England till the 23rd inst, he sails for Canada on the 10th inst. He will be in Montreal on the 20th to attend a Conservative convention at Amherst on the 25th, at Halifax on the 27th and at Sydney on the 29th. Going west, he will hold a series of public meetings in Ontario between September 10 and 20.

A Quebec paper, "The Journal," gives currency to a rumour that the Dominion general elections will take place on Oct. 23 next.

Mr. Robert McConnell, who recently went to Ottawa, to take a position in the Statistical department, has been appointed acting Preventive officer at the port of Halifax at a salary of \$900 a year.

The Liberal Conservative Convention at Gagetown, Q. Co., on Saturday, was attended by representatives from all the Parishes. It was decided to oppose Hon. L. P. Ferris in the event of his accepting a portfolio in the Local government, and H. B. Hetherington was nominated as the candidate. There was a public meeting in the evening, addressed by Hon. Geo. E. Foster, Dr. Stockton, Mr. Hrz, Mr. Wilmet and Mr. Hetherington.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS

A CREMATORY.

Montreal is to have a Crematory. It is to be erected by the Mount Royal Cemetery Company, but Sir Wm. McDonald the tobacco man, is to furnish the money. The Crematory Co. say they intend it to be one of the best things of the kind. The money might, it seems to us, be used for a better purpose.

SUNDAY OPENING.

The Canadian exhibit at the Paris Fair is open on Sundays. A little while ago it was announced that it was to be closed. The Exposition authorities want everything open, as Sunday does not count with them, except as a more profitable day than others. Mr. Tarte who has been managing Canada's affairs in Paris, has not been disposed to deny the Exposition people anything, and would not let the wishes of Sunday observers in Canada interfere with the Sunday of "dear France."

MENIER'S WAY.

One of the Anticosti Protestants, John Stubbart, was arrested at the instance of Menier charged with theft. His counsel, Mr. Davidson, of Quebec, went to Fox Bay to attend the preliminary investigation. Menier had the investigation take place before Mr. Davidson's arrival, and the man was committed for trial, and was shipped on Menier's steamer to Murray Bay jail, bail being refused. There will, perhaps, be an end of this man's tyranny some day. It ought to be very soon.

LAND OWNERS.

A recent official statement shows that in Virginia the Negroes have increased their ownership of land in a surprising degree during the last few years. One twenty-sixth of all the land in the State is now owned by them; and this does not include farms on which coloured people have made only partial payments. They have made remarkable progress in every respect.

ARMENIA.

The cry of the starving still comes from Armenia, as well as from India. A lady missionary of the Orphanage at Nan, says taxes are being collected from people who live on roots they dig on the mountain sides—so poor they are. Mothers bring hungry children, without even rags to cover them, to the orphanages, but they have to be turned away, for the orphanages are already overcrowded. An appeal is made for help.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE.

The rum men of Manitoba, assisted, of course, by the men of the traffic in the larger Provinces, have engaged Hon. Edward Blake to conduct their case against the Prohibitory law of Manitoba before the Privy Council of the Empire. Premier MacDonald says the government of Manitoba will be ably represented when the time comes.

MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.

The British government did not fail to let the Belgian government know that Britain felt that in the Sipido case there had been a grave miscarriage of justice. The would-be-assassin did not even get confined in the Reformatory, for he escaped from the country after the sentence. Of course the escape, as was the force of trial and sentence, was arranged by the authorities.

LORD ROBERTS.

Julian Roberts, the great American War correspondent—and, to his credit be it said, one of the few United States writers who are courageous enough to do the British justice—who is reporting war in South Africa for a number of U. S. papers, wrote recently of Lord Roberts thus: "To me his face suggests the front of a granite mountain, seamed, lined, battered by storm, strain and racking change. It records acquaintance with every trial to which mortals are put, all suffered in the solitude of undivided responsibility. Care, worry, sickness, danger, unceasing reflection, all had left their marks there, yet all are written across a gentle, sympathetic countenance, never gay or merry, yet seldom stern and wholly ignorant of passion. I have known many great faces, but that of Lord Roberts is a face apart. I fancy that, in the minds of their worshippers, some of the soberer gods of the old mythologists had faces like this. . . . Lord Roberts preaches temperance to his soldiers, and they all know that he shows no patience with those who drink to excess. He has never been known to use an oath, and, indeed, there must be comparatively few men whose religion influences them so deeply as does his in every affair of life."

KING HUMBERT.

The death of the King of Italy felt very deeply throughout the country; and Italians everywhere except the anarchists expressed profound sorrow. King Humbert was a good ruler, and his taking was regarded as a national calamity. Countries there has been expressed sincerest sympathy with Italy and royal family, and abhorrence of crime. There seems no doubt, Bresci was simply the representative of an anarchist gang, having its quarters in the United States. He lived at Paterson, N. J., and from there to Europe less than months ago. After the assassination the anarchists in Paterson held a meeting in which they endorsed the killing of the King. Of course they had having instructed Bresci, but said had done what he and they knew be right, that they would sympathize with and sustain him in it, and of him as a martyr. The United States seems to be the favourite rendezvous of the desperadoes of the world; there they plot murders and crimes.

FORTY THOUSAND.

It is proposed to keep an army of forty thousand United States soldiers in the Philippines after the war is over and the volunteer troops mustered out. It will be a time, probably, before the islands will be quieted. If the United States government would be straightforward enough to get rid of the Philippines, there would soon be peace and prosperity in the newly acquired territory.

RETIRED.

Col. Herchmer, who has been command of the Northwest Mounted Police for several years, has been retired, and Mayor Perry appointed to the command. Col. Herchmer went to South Africa with the second Canadian contingent. He was sick and reaching Africa, and was not strong enough afterward for active service. He reached home a week or two since. He is but sixty years of age, and was not expecting to be retired from the Police service.

EMPRESS FREDERICK.

It is announced that the Empress Frederick of Germany, mother of Emperor William, and eldest daughter of Queen Victoria, is suffering from incurable disease.

THE SHAH.

An attempt was made on the life of the Shah of Persia in Paris last Thursday. As he was entering his carriage man broke through the line of police men and, revolver in hand, tried to get on the carriage step. The police disarmed him before he could fire. The would-be-assassin is believed to be an Italian. He won't tell anything about himself.

THE QUEEN'S SON.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg, or, as was better known to the English, Prince Alfred, the second son of Queen Victoria, died suddenly, of paralysis of the heart, Monday night of last week. He was fifty-five years of age. He was the sailor of the Royal family and was an Admiral in the British navy. He married the only daughter of Czar Alexander II of Russia. A few years ago he became reigning Duke of the German Principality of Saxe-Coburg, the succession to which came to him through his father. He seemed to have been a sensible man, who filled his place with a good degree of faithfulness. Much sympathy is felt for the Queen upon whom these bereavements in her old age must have a marked effect.

THEIR HEADQUARTERS.

Another attempt to blow up the Welland Canal was discovered. One hundred pounds of dynamite were found at the point where the attempt was to be made. Extra precautions are being taken by the Dominion police. All points are guarded, and officers are prepared to deal summarily with suspicious characters. The fellows who are managing these attempts have their headquarters in the United States. It would seem about time that United States authorities made some attempt to break up the gangs of Fenians, anarchists and cut-throats, generally who make that country their base of operations against other countries. And yet, so long as the political leaders play to the basest feelings of the basest classes for votes, no interference with King-Killers and Britain haters need be expected.

THE NEW KING.

"The King is dead! Long live the King." King Humbert's son has