

Religious Intelligencer.

HAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH CHRIST.—Peter

FREDERICTON N. B., JANUARY 10 1900

WHOLE No. 2426

Notes and Gleanings.

A law recently passed in Norway makes a girl ineligible for matrimony unless she can show certificates of skill in cooking, knitting, and spinning.

In 1890 there were only four insurance companies in Japan, with a capital of 1,600,000 yen. In 1898 there were seventy-three registered companies with a capital of 34,720,000 yen.

There are at present no fewer than seventy-one European princesses belonging to the reigning houses who are of marriageable age, while the corresponding princes are only forty-seven in number.

In China women are employed everywhere as street car conductors. There was so much dishonesty among the men who were formerly employed that the tram proprietors filled their places with women who have been found in every way satisfactory. They wear a neat uniform, work well together, and even run a small newspaper among themselves.

Des Moines, Ia., has adopted the curfew, and has, besides, added many wholesome regulations regarding loitering on the streets late at night, throwing banana peels upon the sidewalk, prohibiting slot machines and other gambling devices. Many of these regulations seem unusual in the reaction from Puritanism, but every one is in the interest of good morals and good government.

In his sixty-first annual report, filed with the Governor of Ohio last week, the superintendent of the State Hospital at Columbus says in part: "The admissions for the year continue to show a large percentage of those addicted to the liquor and morphine habit. The State hospitals are not the proper place for the treatment of such cases, and some special provision is advised to be made for the proper care, treatment and employment of such as become the wards of the State."

The transcontinental railroads of this country are gradually extending their service without change of cars, in order to meet the demands of their business. A Chicago paper says that one of the longest daily through car services in the world has been inaugurated by the Santa Fe Road. This line has begun operating a daily first-class sleeper between Kansas City, Mo., and the City of Mexico. The distance between the two points is two thousand and three hundred and ninety-six miles. During the entire run there will be no change of cars whatever.

The United States uses more paper than any other country in the world. The builders use up 60,000 tons for sheathing; 45,000 tons of wall paper are manufactured; 300,000 tons of stock are made into paper boards and cardboards; nearly 1,000,000 tons are used for wrapping paper. It will surprise many people to know that nearly half as much paper is used in making books, annually, as in printing newspapers although the value of the stock used in newspapers and other periodicals is much greater than that for any other single purpose.

France is far behind Germany in scholarship, yet it possesses the largest collection of Greek manuscripts in the world. There are 4,800 in the National Library of Paris, twelve hundred more than in the Vatican. The third place is taken by the library of the University of Athens with 1,600 manuscripts. A library in a monastery on Mount Athos comes next with 1,386. The fifth place is taken by the collections of the Greek patriarchate in Jerusalem with 1,500, and the sixth by the famous library in the convent of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai, which has more than 1,200. Germany has only one library with more than 500 Greek manuscripts, the State library of Munich, and that falls short of the library of our British Museum and the libraries of Oxford. The total number of Greek manuscripts stored up in the great libraries of Europe and Western Asia amounts to more than 25,000. Of course, many of these documents are of slight value, especially those in the libraries of Mount Athos, Jerusalem and Sinai.

Now For Renewals!

The INTELLIGENCER desires to continue its visits during 1900 to all the homes it has been entering in the year just closed. We hope none of them will be disposed to try to do without it.

Besides prompt renewals from all present subscribers, the INTELLIGENCER needs and asks for an earnest rally in every part of the field to secure an enlargement of its circulation. Like other religious papers, especially those of a denominational character, it has to depend on the good offices of its friends to present and press its claims on christian people.

The INTELLIGENCER wants especially to get into every Free Baptist home. It has a right to expect to enter them. There are hundreds of them in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia it is not permitted to visit. A special canvass by the ministers and others just now will be appreciated, and may help very much.

The present is a good time to make special effort to secure new subscribers. The INTELLIGENCER asks all its friends to do what they can in this direction.

The Church Awake.

There is something worse than a decrease of membership in the church. Indeed, losses in a single year, occasioned by a careful and close revision of church records, may be an evidence of good housekeeping and spiritual vigor. Quality is better than quantity, if much of that quantity is a positive hindrance to the spiritual life of the membership. There is no doubt that the church is often burdened with the accumulated rubbish of years of neglect. In such a condition the only remedy is the pruning process, by which the removal of the worthless and dead portion may increase the vigor and growth of the remaining branches. But the most serious and alarming condition that can befall the church is spiritual stupor and indifference in the work of soul winning and spiritual culture. We refer to the church in general and not to any particular denomination.

If the church does not feel keenly its spiritual barrenness and loss of winning power, it is in a perilous condition. There is need of alarm. If the cause is removed, then the temporary losses may be retrieved. But if the conditions which lead to decline shall continue, then there is no hope for the future.

Let us, therefore, give ourselves to the serious and prayerful study of the conditions that confront us. Is the church fully aroused to the work of soul-winning? Does she feel the humiliation of her present powerlessness to attract and save men? Does she realize the chilling worldly influence of entertainments, parties and the frivolous things of social life upon her spiritual temperature? Does she recognize the truth that her divinely appointed mission is to reach and save the people from the love and service of sin? Do Christians long, weep, pray, and plead for the rescue of the lost and sinful? There is reason to fear that, in too many cases, the church is at ease in Zion, and does not feel sufficiently the responsibility resting upon her as the great agency for the salvation of men.

We blame no one in particular. We simply lay a charge against present conditions. It is to our discredit that they exist. God is not at fault. The divine side is waiting for human co-operation in this great work of soul-winning. If the conditions are met, success and growth are assured. The cross of Christ has lost none of its attractive power. The gospel is still the power of God unto salvation to those who believe. Immortal souls in sin are dying all about us. The world is groaning under the weight of sorrow and evil. Millions of souls are hungering for the bread of life. All things are ready. The divine provisions are abundant and adequate. Nothing whatever is wanting but the church to gird herself with spiritual might and arise and shine in the power and glory of her full equipment.

We must have revivals. They are our hope and strength. The great religious awakenings of the past occurred under such leaders as Joshua, Josiah, Ezra, Luther, Knox, Fox, Wesley, Otterbein, Finney, and Edwards. Out of the fires of genuine revivals have come the heroic and stalwart leaders of the church. Revivals have marked great epochs in the onward movement of the kingdom of God. Let us hold on to these truths of history. Men may try to persuade us to think that the day of revivals is past, and that new methods and agencies must be substituted in advancing the kingdom of Christ in the earth. But not so. Perish the thought. Counsel not with the world and worldly advisers. Consult God in his Word and in prayer, and cling to the promise of Holy Ghost baptism of power, that will convict and thoroughly convert men from their sins. Let no cold-hearted, backslidden church or Christian dampen our ardor for soul-saving. Let this be the chief business of the church. Let those who see the need of a general religious awakening sound the alarm. Let there be straight gospel preaching to the church and to all the people. Lay personal responsibility upon the membership. Listen not to the excuses of the time-serving. Clear the deck of all social diversions for the special work of soul-saving. Side-track all minor things for the time and get into line for this one great interest of God. For the King's business requires haste.

The one supreme need is an aroused and Spirit-filled church. Let us press the battle to the gates. Hold on. Do not become discouraged. Be patient. Speak, pray, persuade, exhort, and even weep until the church is wide awake. For that itself will be a revival which will make her attractive and powerful to win and save. Christ will then be exalted and a multitude of accessions, of well-saved Christians, will be added to the church according to the divine plan and purpose. Oh Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years; in the midst of the years make known, in wrath remember mercy.—Rel. Telescope.

Rum Traffic Notes.

STRANGE SPECTACLE

One set of professing Christians spending their strength, time, and money, in efforts to remove the greatest curse to the home, society and the church, viz., intoxicating liquors, and another set of professing Christians upholding their use and protecting their sale!

What a spectacle for angels to witness. Well, might pagans shrink from accepting a religion that recognized in its followers those two sets.

IT WAS SHOCKING.

Mrs. Ormiston Chant, the temperance advocate, speaking at a temperance meeting at Redhill, Eng., said she recently attended a bazaar connected with a place of worship where bottles of spirits were raffled for and were sold by young ladies who appeared to enjoy playing at barnyards, but who doubtless would not touch a barnyard or a potman with their fingers. She thought it was shocking.

RUM IN AFRICA.

A missionary in Liberia writes that he is only waiting for some one to take his place there, to himself come home and take the platform against the liquor traffic. He says: "I can do Africa more good warring against the liquor traffic here than I can preaching and teaching the gospel there. Africa, with the simple gospel of Jesus is saved; but Africa with rum is eternally lost; for the few missionaries that can survive there can not overcome the effect of the river of strong drink that is being poured into the country."

DRINK IN FRANCE.

The Minister of Public Instruction has taken the matter up seriously, and has appointed a special commission to inquire as to what is the best way to bring the dangers of alcohol before the children in the public and superior schools of France. One result is that a series of recommendations have been made, amongst other things, that suitable hand-books be prepared, to be used in different classes to instruct the young on the nature and effects of alcohol; that regular instruction be given in the matter, and that special

lectures be delivered by eminent medical men each year, in order to enforce the lessons learned in class.

PROHIBITION IN KANSAS.

A writer puts it thus: "The State of Kansas is expending \$1,000,000 annually for whisky, whereas a few years ago, before the State had prohibition [and when the population was only half what it is now] it spent \$15,000,000. This shows a balance in prohibition's favor of \$14,000,000." He also says: "Prohibition does prohibit whisky about as much as the law prohibits stealing. They will steal, but they steal less. If the penalty against liquor-selling were as strong as it is against murder, there would be as few liquor-sellers as murderers, and there would be less tears and less poverty in this world, and less sulphur fumes in the next." There is no dodging a shot so direct as that.

BOYCOTTING A BANK.

The town of Lancaster, N. Y., has long been noted for its disregard of the Sabbath law on liquor selling, so that saloons have been wide open on Sunday. The chief industry of the town being brewing and selling beer, the brewers and saloonists acted as if they owned the place. So recently, when the names of some officers of the Bank of Lancaster were found on a petition signed by the leading citizens, asking that the law in relation to liquor selling on Sunday be enforced, the beer men started a run on the bank, hoping to scare the bank people, and a vigorous run they made; but their boycott did not terminate as they expected. The bank directors were firm, and the bank doors are open and still doing business.

One Paper's View.

[THE NEW YORK OBSERVER.]

Would it be for the interest of mankind that Great Britain should cease to be a first class power, or the foremost power in the world? Seeing the great part which that nation is playing in the moral and material development of the race, no thinking man can imagine anything more disastrous to the cause of human progress than its abasement.

Moreover, as a people, we are under an obligation to Great Britain so great and unquestionable that we should be ingrates if we failed in any possibility of international menace, to give her our support. For she alone of all the nations of Europe believed in our good faith, and accepted our declarations of high purpose, in our intervention in Cuba. And it was Great Britain that intimated to the powers that if they undertook concerted action to prevent that intervention they would have to reckon with the British fleet. There is every reason to believe, moreover, that were another European coalition against us threatened, she would again come to our assistance. It must be borne in mind, too, that this nation must share in any catastrophe that befalls Great Britain. With the acquisition of dependence we have incurred the obligation of defence, and we can defend them without an exhausting war only by the preservation of the balance of power. With that balance destroyed in favor of powers inimical to us, the task of defence would become incalculably heavier, and that of South America, to which we are pledged under the Monroe doctrine, well nigh impossible. In short, the abasement of Great Britain as a power of the foremost rank would be so disastrous to our own interests and to those of the world, that in any serious danger Americans must come to her aid. Many of them will protest that they would not do so; but they would do so, just the same.

What They Say.

A subscriber, whose church relations are with another denomination than that with which the INTELLIGENCER is connected and who pays for two copies of the paper, writes:

"I look for its arrival eagerly. I believe it is the means of doing much good. After reading our copy I always send it to some one else; I think it wrong to destroy such papers."

A long-time subscriber, renewing his subscription for 1900 and sending a new subscriber, says:

"I very much enjoy the visit of my pastor, the INTELLIGENCER, once a week. . . . May it live long, and may you be much blessed in your good work."

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease." Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

Woodstock Society.

A MESSAGE FROM INDIA.

This is the first time I have put down the new date 1900. How short the time seems to be since first dating 1899; yet how many changes the fleeting days have brought us all!

The year just closed has brought to us, as an auxiliary of the N. B. W. M. Society, much that is encouraging. Deeper interest in missions is quite manifest, and a growth of missionary spirit means a growth in all lines of church work. The amount raised the past year for extending His Kingdom in India has exceeded any previous year in our history as a Society, yet how small it seems when we think of what might be done did each realize the need of more money in this large field, and our individual responsibility in giving as God has prospered us.

We still hold our regular monthly prayer meetings, the first Tuesday in the month, at the homes of sisters. We meet at the homes because some of the members who are much interested in our work cannot attend our meeting if they are held in the church; some are not able to go out in the winter months, so we have our meetings with them, in their homes. At our last meeting a letter from Miss Gannon to our President was read, and we thought better to send extracts from it for our column, so other societies would be benefited. She says:—"It is beautiful weather with us at present. The nights and evenings are cold, yet nothing compared to what you must be having. One feels like working in this weather."

"Soon the missionaries, some of them, native pastors and Bible women will be going out in different directions, from village to village to speak to the people about Christ. "I would like to get off next week to Ujarda, but something may interfere with my plans. The present pastor, rather the one who has been stationed there, has been transferred. At present there is no one stationed there, and, what is more, we do not know of any one to send. I would like to get a good man, with a wife who cared something for the welfare of her fellow creatures, to go there. I wonder if I pray as I ought for the work? I wonder if the people at home are praying as they ought? I know I have worked, and will soon be going out again, if it is God's will, to work for the people there. Would that God would abundantly bless our going this year."

"I know He has blessed us in the past, but I long to see more, and to know that the professing Christians are truly His disciples. O that they may have broader and higher aspirations about the Christian religion! It is hard for them to see their own need of righteousness and purity, i. e., a continual growing in grace and knowledge of God. "What can I write you about the work that will encourage you and lead the people in the home-land to engage more heartily in the work of extending His Kingdom in India? I think every person who is truly His follower would be encouraged by the knowledge of it being His work, and that it is bound to increase, until people of every nation and tribe and tongue have heard the redemptive story. Yes, India is to-day—better prepared for the coming of our King than it was a year ago. His Kingdom is steadily advancing in this land of heathen darkness and superstition. But think of the millions yet unreached. India has a population of about 300 million, more than the combined population of German Empire, Austria and Hungary, France, Great Britain and Ireland, Italy, Spain, Belgium and other parts of Europe. How few are the foreign missionaries (1700), or, taking into consideration the native men and women workers about 7500. How few among the many millions!

"It is estimated that there are 2,300,000 native Christians in India and Burma. It is not 100 years yet since Carey baptized his first convert to Christianity, but to day among the 14 religions recognized as belonging to the Empire, Christianity holds the fifth place in the list. Are not the Free Baptists of New Brunswick going to have a much larger work in the extension of their Masters Kingdom in India? Are there not consecrated men and women ready? God grant there may be. Monday afternoon:—I am seated in the sewing class, not to sew, but to keep the children quiet and see that they work. I have five girls with fever in the house, and have tried for two days to keep down the fever. So far I have succeeded, but they have very little appetite and do not care about sitting up. It does not look now as though I could get off to Ujarda this week, but I think I shall send two Bible women, and perhaps next week shall be able to go myself. There are several houses in the village whose inmates have fever. Mr. Lougher has fever, not very high. I hope he will soon be able to throw it off. "From the INTELLIGENCER I learn that you have had a good Conference. Our Conference here closed last Monday. We had good meetings, and I trust much good has been done, the influence of which may continue. "I wish to thank you and the Woodstock sisters for your interest in my work. No, not my work: it is His work. "May God bless you individually. May He bless your society. And when we are gathered home may He say unto each of you, 'Well, done! good and faithful servant etc.' We hope this year to do better work. Let us pray more for our work and our missionaries, and help each other by sending reports from our auxiliaries to the missionary column of the INTELLIGENCER. M. S. Woodstock, Jan. 3rd, 1900.

Literary Notes.

The future of Cuba and Porto Rico, the Philippine question, financial legislation in the new Congress, and the recent progress of American municipalities are some of the topics editorially treated in the January Review of Reviews.

If, as some think, Mr. Rudyard Kipling has been the subject of too much laudation, a wholesome corrective is afforded in the keen and biting treatment which he receives at the hands of Mr. Robert Buchanan, in the paper called 'The Voice of the Hooligan' which the Living Age for Jan. 6 reprints from The Contemporary Review. The true estimate of Kipling lies somewhere between the extreme of laudation of such unsparing criticism as this.

Four excellent maps are a noticeable feature for the January number of the Missionary Review of the World. Three of these accompany an article on "Protestant Foreign Missions in 1800 and 1900." These maps show the principal mission stations of the world to-day, the mission fields of 1800; the spheres of influence of Protestant, Papal and other Political Powers, and the territorial distributions of the various religions of the world. Mr. Bosch's article is also a master-piece, on raising the religious, political, and missionary situation in the world to-day with that of 100 years ago. Dr. Pierson follows with an article in the "Missionary of the Nineteenth Century," showing the progress of the missionary movement and the notable characteristics of each decade. "The Missionary and Religious Situation in South Africa" is the subject of an illustrated article. The Editorials are full of interest and the General Intelligence is good, as always.

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The January number of the Century, appearing just before New Year's, has a Happy New Year cover, printed in colors. Among the contributors are the Right Hon. John Murray, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, Rudyard Kipling, Gov. Theodore Roosevelt, Booker T. Washington, Ernest Seton Thompson, Stephen Phillips, and Capt. Joshua Slocum. The magazine is rich in full-page pictures, many of them in tints. The great work that is being done at Tuskegee Institute for the elevation of the negro race is set forth very convincingly by President Washington, who is laboring no less effectively for the good of the whites than for that of the colored population of the South. The description of the present and forecast of the future of his people. The opening of the civil war, and the battle of Marston Moor, are Mr. M. R. L. y's special themes. John M. Oskison's copy-righted story, "Only the Mas or Shall Praise," the prize story in the magazine's college competition of 1899, is remarkable not merely as the product of a young man in whose veins flows a liberal admixture of Indian blood.