

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. JOSEPH McLeod, D.D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13TH, 1901.

Your renewal now, if you please.

Bates College, Lewiston, Me. (Free Baptist), received \$10,000 by the will of the late J. S. Ricker of Portland, Me. He gave to thirty-four religious and charitable institutions \$300,000.

To denounce another denomination's creed is not the way to prove love of our own. Loyalty to our own church does not find its best expression in ill-natured remarks about other churches.

Jesus knew how to stand alone against wrongdoing, faithfully rebuking the wrong-doers though they held His life in their hands. He would have His servants and all His people have the same spirit.

It is intimated that Archbishop Bruchesi, of Montreal, will be made a cardinal very soon. Other Canadian archbishops, are, doubtless, anxious to get "the red hat," and are, probably, "pulling" hard for it.

That so many Protestants hold good places in Catholic Bavaria is a great distress to Roman Catholic leaders. Of five ministers of the State three are Protestants. Recently two places of influence have been filled by Protestants, appointed by the Prince Regent. Even in Belgium they cannot quite have it all their own way. A Protestant paper is issued there regularly, and has, evidently, increasing influence.

Here is another instance, added to that given last week, illustrating the fact that the guilty, whether in prison or out of it, endure only a small portion of the suffering their wrong-doings cause. Sir Edwin Arnold, author of "The Light of Asia" and of "The Light of the World," well-known traveler, lecturer, and editor of "The London Telegraph," is in sore tribulation. His son Julian, who was extradited from the United States a few weeks ago, charged with misappropriating trust funds, has been sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. The son is ruined, and the poor father's heart is broken.

The St. John Evangelical Alliance, at its last meeting, having under consideration the statement of the chief of police regarding bawdy houses, and the fact that the police make no attempt to abolish them, passed the following resolution:

"That, with reference to the question raised during the recent police investigation as to whether certain houses of ill-fame should be tolerated under police supervision, as a matter of expediency and a means of minimizing the evil which they represent, this alliance is emphatically of the opinion that a Christian community cannot compromise with sin, and that the constituted guardians of public morals should exert themselves to suppress the notorious houses referred to and all similar places."

One of the Woodstock papers announces that on the day of the Queen's funeral a service held in the Episcopal church of that town was attended by the ministers of the Presbyterian, Baptist, Free Baptist, Methodist and Reformed Baptist churches and large numbers of their congregations. It is not stated whether they were there by invitation, nor does it appear that they had any part in the service. We hope the brethren will pardon us for saying that it might have

been better for them and for their congregations if they had held a union memorial service, or, if that could not have been arranged, a service in each church. Perhaps there was some understanding about the service in the Episcopal church that does not appear in the report of it; but if it was as appears, it seems to us that the ministers of the other churches might have done better than become members of a congregation in a church which refuses them recognition.

Two Presbyterian pastors in Cleveland, Ohio, whose Sabbath evening services had in late years been popular lectures rather than gospel sermons, have, under strong conviction that they were making a wrong use of the opportunity, given up the lecturing and gone to preaching the simple gospel. The congregations have dropped—in one case falling from 1000 to 200. That would cause some ministers to believe that they had made a mistake; but this minister says the results are better than when he lectured to a crowd, and in speaking to brother ministers said, "A minister has got to get out of his head and heart the hungering for the crowd, if he is destined to be a real ambassador for Christ." So let us all understand. And, as to the congregation, he will have as large a one again, and, what is better, he will see the salvation of men.

Every once in a while some preacher, craving notoriety, says something which is hailed with approval by "the baser sort." A New York preacher, Rev. H. Frank, has just delighted the rum-gang throughout the country by speaking of the rum shops as "the safety-valve which saves the country from social revolution." He says that "through the saloon the suppressed indignation, misery and madness of the under classes find vent in recreation, drunkenness and revelry." He suggests the removal of the social conditions "which make poverty, degradation and immorality possible," and says that with their removal "the saloon will vanish as the fog before the sun." Where has the man lived that he has not seen that the great cause of "poverty, degradation and immorality" is the very grog-shop which he seems to think improves, or at least relieves these deplorable things? There is something the matter with his head as well as with his heart.

It is told of a western pastor that he took decided objection to having the several branches of general work carried on by his Conference presented to his congregation for support. In conversation with the brother who was urging the matter he said,—"It may be well enough for you to talk about our churches taking a collection every year for missions, education and other things; but if I did as you suggest my salary would lack several hundred dollars of being paid, and the Lord knows how hard it is for us to get what is now promised. The church now owes me more than one hundred dollars."

Mr. — was quite equal to the occasion, and on condition that the pastor would according to his ability every three months present the work and claims of one of the denominational enterprises, he promised to make up every cent that might be due on the brother's salary at the end of the year.

The proposition was agreed to. At the end of the year the brethren met in Yearly Meeting, when instead of Mr. — being called upon to make up a deficiency in the pastor's salary, the pastor gave this testimony:

"I have been a pastor for twenty years and never has my salary been paid so promptly as during the past year. My church does not owe me a cent, and better than that, there is a most delightful missionary spirit prevailing among the people. I never had so many baptisms in any single year in my ministry. My people very generally have established a Lord's treasury in their homes; so has their pastor."

Similar experiences would undoubtedly follow in many cases if pastors would not shrink from their duty.

THE DRINK HABIT IN CANADA.

Several weeks ago The Westminster proposed to its readers a series of questions concerning the drink habit in Canada. The questions briefly stated were these:—(1) Has the drink habit increased among men within your observation during the past five years? (2) If there has been an increase, how do you explain it? (3) What would you suggest as to the wisest course to be pursued? The answers to the questions have been many, and have been from all the Provinces of Canada, the centres of industry and trade being well represented in the answers.

The editors have carefully examined the very large correspondence, and

made such a summary of it as they hope will be not only interesting but helpful to the cause of temperance. It is well to know the actual facts, even though they may not be just what we have thought.

The first question dealt with is that as to whether the drink habit has increased in Canada in the last five years. There is a consensus of opinion that great progress has been made in the last generation or two in the direction of total abstinence. There is scarcely a dissentient voice as to this. But there is not the same agreement that progress has been made in the last five years, indeed only a few are of the opinion that progress has marked the late years. The correspondence from the cities and larger towns is to the effect that the drink habit is increasing in recent years. This increase seems to be principally among what are called "working men" in the large industrial centres. Toronto is mentioned especially, and the statement made that Saturday afternoons the down-town bar-rooms are crowded with working men.

The drink habit among women is mentioned by some correspondents, who say that it is increasing. Toronto furnishes the chief testimony on this point. In that city it is stated that an increasing number of women high in social circles, and some of them prominent in Church organizations, are regular users of wines and stronger liquors, of drugs also.

About the drinking of members of Parliament, politicians and public men generally, it is stated that while the drinking habit is not nearly so common as it was twenty-five years ago, it has been increasing in the last five years. At political banquets and the like liquors are more freely dispensed than a few years ago, and public men are less careful about indulgence, while at Ottawa and Toronto members of Parliament are more open in their drinking habits than they were ten years ago.

This is a most unpleasant picture—all too true to life, we fear. But the correspondence which brings out these facts, brings out, also, some gratifying facts. One of them is that among college students drinking is much less prevalent than at any time in the past. Opinion among students in all departments is said to be steadily growing in favour of temperance. The reports as to colleges are more encouraging from the Ontario, Western and Maritime Provinces, than those from Montreal. Old country customs are more marked at the last named place than at the others.

Among railway men the sentiment in favour of abstinence grows steadily. And among newspaper men the same is true. In both these departments of work the drink habit is a serious hindrance to promotion.

We have given in the foregoing a very brief summary of the answers to the first question.

The statements will, probably, surprise many readers, who have believed that everything was moving in the direction of their desires and hopes.

In another article we will place before our readers the substance of that part of the correspondence which attempts to account for the alleged increase in drinking.

WHAT THE DEACON SAID

No. II.

ABOUT FISHING.

I was balancing and admiring the trout rod a friend had given me, and in a day dream was throwing my fly on pool and lake and river, when the deacon came in. "Fine rod that; buy it?" asked the deacon. No, I said, a friend gave it to me at Christmas. "Appropriate gift, very appropriate!" said the deacon. But there was an inflection in his voice I did not like, it suggested sarcasm. "Ah, yes," he said, "but is the gentleman who gave it acquainted with you?" A little nettled, I suggested that no one but a lunatic would go around—even at Christmas—giving ten dollar trout rods to strangers. "Do you know if your friend sent any oil paintings to his blind friends at Christmas?" asked the deacon. Your question is irrelevant and foolish, I answered; only lunatics would send pictures to the blind. "There are more lunatics outside asylums than are within them," murmured the deacon.

"When do you expect to fish?" he asked, and then added, "not that it makes any difference when you fish with your pretty little rod, for you will buy your fish next Summer just the same as you did last Summer." I ignored that remark, and told him I would go away to some quiet place where no one had fished. "Under a tree, with a book," remarked the deacon, "that is about the only place where a fisherman has never fished. You ought to go where the crowd goes, and where every boy and man has fished for years. You can waste your

time there as well as in any other place, and have plenty of company, and get just about as many fish, as you could (with an emphasis on the you) where there are plenty of fish." I expressed the opinion that only a fool would fish in an over-fished stream; and declared that I would go where there were plenty of fish, and only a few fishermen.

"That is not the rule among fishermen," insisted the deacon; why I saw five fishermen at a little pool no larger than this room, and there was not a grown trout in it; a few suckers were all that was left, and the men fished, and scowled at each other, and got their lines tangled; and the few wise fish that were left in the pool just laughed at them, they could not be fooled with artificial flies and fancy bait."

Why didn't they go to five different pools the five men, or the four men, and let the man who first fished there alone? I asked.

"Didn't know enough," said the deacon; "thought they would tire out the other fishermen, or that, by using better bait and flashier flies, they would catch the fish away from the other fellows. Oh, it is just the same all over; fishermen will crowd each other, whether in fresh water or salt. I have known a fisherman to build a weir right opposite another weir, and then along would come another fisherman, and another, until there were five or six of them, and as many weirs; and there they were, each trying to coax or drive the fish into his own weir, and away from his neighbors' weirs. Just the same way with net and line fishing: a dozen boats would crowd each other, until their nets and lines would become tangled, and they would make such a clamour and talk so much that they would scare away the fish. Then the fishermen would get mad at each other, and the fish would laugh among themselves and say, 'If those men up there in their funny world had as much sense as fish they would catch us easy enough.'"

"And the worst of it is," said the deacon, "the sea is so wide and deep that there are fish enough for all, if the fishers would wisely cast their nets; and there are streams, plenty of them, where the silver fins flash in the sunlight year after year, and no fisherman has ever cast his fly."

But, deacon, I said, there are laws governing fishery grounds—bays, streams, lakes and rivers, and fishermen are protected, and there is redress for them if their rights are infringed upon. You cannot build a weir nearer another than the prescribed distance. "Not among the fishermen I speak of," replied the deacon. "They have no laws; they have an old book, I believe, but I think they rarely read it. It is a very old work, about obsolete, but it tells who shall fish, and where they shall fish; and I have heard that you can go as far away as China and Africa and everywhere else, as long as you do not fish on another's limit."

"But don't the fishermen quarrel a great deal when they are fishing in the same pond?" I asked. "No," answered the deacon, "at least they don't call it quarrelling. They poke fun at each other's boats and weirs and rods, and brag about their own, but they don't really quarrel now. They used to fight each other, and I have heard that they used to torture each other; but fishermen are tough, and they are real good-hearted people."

"The funny part of it is—or some people would call it funny—that they have a party every year, and they love each other for a week, and fly a white flag, and change boats. And then, after the week is over, they go on fishing in each others' limits."

Why don't they get together, and agree to disagree, and keep out of each other's way? I asked.

"It may come to that in time," said the deacon. The fishermen met in New York last Spring, and talked it over, and they all agreed that it was a shame, and a sin to interfere with each other in their work, and that they ought to unite in destroying the sharks and dog-fish that are destroying the fish. The biggest and best fishermen are willing to help each other by not interfering with each other's fishing ground, but the little fishermen are jealous and suspicious; and as a little man's vote counts for as much as the big man's, they have not yet been able to reach an agreement."

The deacon turned to go, but stopping in the door, he looked back and said,—"I think I omitted to say that the fishermen I have been talking about wear white ties, and smell of fish only on Fridays."

And then I sat and mused until my cheeks burned and my fishing rod had lost its beauty, for I felt that it had been used as a text for a sermon. If the deacon has made that rod to bud and blossom, it was not made in vain.

THADDEUS.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

AUSTRIA.

The general election in Austria surprised the Roman Church party. They had been encouraged by certain liberal tendencies, and went into the election determined to carry everything, and confident that they would do so. But they came out of the fight with much less strength than they had before the election. The result indicates a revolt amongst the people against their ecclesiastical masters.

GERMAN POPULATION.

The growth of population in Germany since the war with France is one of the most remarkable things in modern Europe. Since the treaty of peace was signed in 1871 Germany has not extended her territory by a single acre on the Continent of Europe (if we except the acquisition of Heligoland), but she has increased her population by 16,000,000. The Germans numbered 40,000,000 in 1871; they number 56,000,000 now, and yet, although there are so many mouths to feed, the Germans are better fed, better clothed, and in every way more prosperous than they were then. This is attributed largely to the fact that for twenty years Germany devoted herself to improving the elementary education of her people.

ANOTHER LOAN.

Russia is a great borrower. Its debt grows steadily. The government is understood to be after another loan, \$122,000,000, and expects to get it in Europe. The money is wanted for railway construction—at least that is what is said.

CANADA'S INDIANS.

The latest report of the Indian Department shows that the Indians of Canada are just about holding their own in point of number. The number reported in 1900 is 99,010—being 29 more than in 1899. Nova Scotia has 2,018 of them, and New Brunswick has 1639. British Columbia has a larger number than any other Province—24,523; Prince Edward Island has the smallest number—318. Their earnings during the year, as nearly as could be ascertained, aggregated about three and a quarter millions of dollars, being an increase of \$400,000 over the previous year.

A GOOD WORK.

The Prisoners' Aid Association is evidently doing an excellent work in Toronto. One of the most important branches of the Association's work is a Home for Girls, into which, during the last year, one hundred and forty-two girls were received. Of these 51 were committed to the care of the Home by the police magistrate, 41 were directed to it by the police, 8 were taken from the jail, 11 from the Reformatory for Women, 13 from hospitals, and 12 came from the country. For 70 of them situations were found, 34 were returned to their own homes, 8 were placed in hospitals, and 28 in other institutions. At the end of the year, 93 were doing well, while 49 were doubtful or had not reformed. Over one-half of these girls would have been sent to jail had it not been for this Home. During the four years the Home has been in operation out of a total of 398 received, 291 are doing well.

Of the work done by the Association in behalf of the inmates of the Central Prison, it is stated that during the year 200 young men and boys were registered in the evening classes in the Prison which meet four nights each week. Many of these could neither read nor write on entering. The progress made by most of them was most satisfactory. There are a Sabbath-school which meets every Sunday morning, preaching service in the afternoon, and prayer-meeting every Monday and Saturday evening. Much good has been the result of these combined agencies.

During the year 198 men from the Central Prison and Toronto Jail received practical help on their discharge, either in the form of meals, lodgings, hospital treatment, loans or assistance in obtaining employment.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The British Parliament assembles on Thursday of this week. It is announced that the King will open Parliament in person, with full state ceremonial. Queen Alexandra will accompany him. It is many years since the Sovereign has been present at the opening of Parliament.

A REPORTER'S YARN.

Last week a New York paper had a sensational report that King Edward was suffering from cancer in the throat, and that he could live but a short time. The physician, a specialist in

throat troubles, who was said to be attending the King, says the story is a "scandalous invention," and that there is nothing the matter with the King's throat. Great is "yellow journalism."

THE KING TO THE COLONIES.

King Edward has sent the following message to all the British Colonies and dependencies:

"To my people beyond the seas—The countless messages of loyal sympathy that I have received from every part of my dominions over seas testify to the universal grief in which the whole Empire now mourns the loss of my beloved mother."

In the welfare and prosperity of her subjects throughout Great Britain the Queen ever evinced a heartfelt interest. She saw with thankfulness the steady progress which, under the wide extension of self-government, they had made during her reign. She warmly appreciated their unfailing loyalty to her throne and person, and was proud to think of those who had so nobly fought and died for the Empire's cause in South Africa.

I have already declared that it will be my constant endeavor to follow the great example which has been bequeathed to me. In these endeavors I shall have confident trust in the devotion and sympathy of the people and of their several representative assemblies throughout my vast colonial dominions. With such loyal support I will, with the blessing of God, solemnly work for the promotion of the common welfare and security of our great Empire, over which I have now been called to reign. (Signed) EDWARD."

SOUTH AFRICA.

Mounted troops to the number of 30,000 are to take the field in South Africa.

The Boers were moving into Portuguese territory, and Portugal asked the British to help repel them. British troops are now guarding Delagoa Bay railway.

The war office has the following from Lord Kitchener:

"Pretoria, Feb. 9.—The column making eastward occupied Ermelo, Feb. 6, with slight opposition. A large force of Boers, estimated at 7,000, under Louis Botha, retired eastward. About 800 wagons with families passed through Ermelo on the way to Amsterdam and very large quantities of stock are being driven east."

A peace delegate under sentence of death and other Boer prisoners, were taken away by the Boers. All the reports show that the Boers are exceedingly bitter. Fifty Boers surrendered.

Louis Botha, with 2,000 men, attacked General Smith-Dorrien at Orange Camp, Bothwell, at 3 a. m. Feb. 6. He was repulsed after severe fighting. General Spruit was killed. General Randemeyer was severely wounded, two field cornets were killed, 20 of the Boer dead were left in our hands and many severely wounded. Our casualties were 24 killed and 53 wounded.

Our movement to the east is reported to have thoroughly upset all the enemy's calculations and created a regular panic in the district.

Christian De Wet appears to be crossing the line south of Jagersfontein road to the west this morning, having failed to effect a crossing by the drifts east of Bethulie.

In Cape Colony, Calvinia has been occupied by Col. De Lisle, who entered Feb. 6, the enemy retreating toward Kenhardt. Col. Haig is driving the Midland commando northward past Aberdeen."

SAYS WE KILLED HER.

The death of the Queen touched the whole world as it was never touched before. Expressions of sympathy with her bereaved family and Empire, and tributes to her worth have been spoken and written in every language. None have been heartier than those of the United States people. Public men and the press have touchingly voiced the sincere affection and veneration with which the great body of the people regarded the departed Queen. Of course, it was expected that there would, in certain quarters, be unwillingness to pay any respect to her memory. Few were surprised that the Mayor of New York should refuse to put the City Hall flag at half-mast, or that the Chicago City Council refused to pass a resolution of sympathy. In both cases the action was in deference to the baser elements—Fenianism and Anarchism—which control affairs in those cities. The only other case of anti-British feeling which has come under our notice was found in a religious paper. The thing is done in rhyme. There is a successful endeavour to speak well of the dead Queen, but it is, apparently, only that the author may more strongly express his vicious feeling towards the British Empire. Here are two specimens of the doggerel: