

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. Joseph McLeod, D.D., ... EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5TH, 1902.

A church interested in missions, and supporting them according to its ability, is a true christian church.

Archbishop Bond of Montreal has asked for a coadjutor, owing to his age, he being now 80. The Diocesan Synod will meet March 4th to make choice of a coadjutor.

In the United States Sunday trading is steadily increasing. There are many towns where nearly every line of business is carried on the same as on other days of the week. Wherever the population is European there the Sabbath restraints are cast off. We cannot be too watchful against such things in this country.

Because a man is a christian, is he therefore, precluded from taking an active interest in public affairs? Some people seem to think so. The truth is that the more really christian he is, the more will he be concerned for the improvement of public affairs, and will do his part towards such improvement.

The Protestant Episcopal bishop of New Jersey has startled some people by the statement that there is a marked increase of intemperance amongst women. He says he bases the statement upon a careful investigation and observation of conditions in the United States as well as abroad. At the same time, he says, intemperance amongst men is decreasing.

News from Japan continues most cheering. The Bible is being welcomed into the homes of the people. During the first three months of last year nearly 50,000 Bibles were sold, and the rate of its distribution is sure to increase. There is a Bible Readers' Union, now numbering more than ten thousand members, all of whom are pledged to read portions of the sacred word every day. Christianity is sure to make its way amongst the people.

A compilation of facts concerning missionary work soon to be issued, will show that throughout Christendom nineteen and a half millions of dollars is the annual offering of Protestant Foreign Mission work. Great Britain is the largest contributor, \$8,575,306 being the offering in 1901, the United States contribution in the same year being \$5,636,758. Over 13,000 missionaries are now engaged in christian service in lands other than their own, and 70,000 native converts are working with the missionaries for the conversion of their own people. The christians in mission countries now number more than a million and a quarter. So the work of winning the world to Christ goes on.

It is authoritatively announced that the Pope has appointed a special Commission for the consideration of all questions connected with Biblical studies. This, it is said, is to enable Catholic scholars in every part of the world to have the opportunity of stating their views and difficulties, and of bringing them to the direct notice of the Pope. The world moves, even the Roman world. The appointment of this Commission is the outward and visible sign of the revolution of opinion that is taking place in the highest quarters amongst the Catholic clergy, and amongst the educated laity. The signs multiply of the time coming when popes, councils and dogmas will be powerless to interfere between God and man.

About the great and pressing need in Sabbath Schools the United Presbyterian has a timely word. The need is "not organization; we have that in as large degree as we can manage. It is not lesson helps; we have them in endless forms, and of every degree of excellence. It is not special seasons of effort like rallying day; we are in danger of becoming so special in our efforts that the ordinary has no effect. But we do need teachers deeply imbued with the spirit of Christ; teachers who are not bound to lesson helps or commentaries, who enter into the spirit of the word, who grasp the central thought and bring it home to the conscience; teachers who are so thoroughly under the power of the Spirit that they themselves become the expositors of the gospel of Christ; teachers who are so in sympathy with their classes that their lives become interwoven, and thus draw them to Christ. We have known teachers who had but little of method, who could say but little about teaching, who led all the members of their classes to Christ. The power of the Sabbath school lies in the hearts of the teachers.

TEMPERANCE IN SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Does temperance receive the attention in Sunday Schools it deserves? Probably it does in some schools. But in the majority of schools, it is to be feared, it gets but small attention. The Sunday School lessons, as arranged by the International Lessons Committee, are very weak and pitiful. Some writers of notes on the lessons have made the best possible use of them, illustrating and applying temperance truth with emphasis; but the most of the notes have been almost meaningless as temperance teaching.

There was a good deal of struggle before temperance was recognized as a subject that should receive definite attention in the International Lessons. Miss Willard was largely instrumental in securing the subject recognition, in 1890. Since then there has been more than one attempt to drop the subject from the list. It is now stated that another attempt to abolish the temperance lessons is to be made at the International S. S. Convention which will be held in Denver in June next. This movement does not originate with those—and they are many—who are dissatisfied with the kind of lessons provided for Temperance Sundays. It is led by those who have provided the lessons. It is, perhaps, not fair to charge them with having purposely provided poor lessons; but the fact that some members of the Lessons' committee have from the first been opposed to the temperance lessons, and have frequently desired and sought to have them discontinued, makes occasion for the suspicion that they have not been careful to do their best to avoid providing unsatisfactory lessons. It is to be hoped that the attempt to shut definite temperance teaching out of the one hundred and fifty thousand Sunday Schools of Canada and the United States, with their enrollment of thirteen and a half millions of scholars, may be defeated with such emphasis that it will not be made again. And, besides defeating the unworthy scheme, the Convention should insist that the arrangement of the S. S. lessons be in the hands of men more in sympathy with present day moral and religious struggles.

The question of temperance is one of the great questions of our time. No one who looks into the facts about the drink habit can fail to be deeply moved by the array of ghastly effects. Nor can he fail to see that the drink traffic flourishes by these ghastly things, and deliberately plans in every way to increase them that it may increasingly flourish. To deal with the drink habit and the drink traffic is one of the most important problems demanding the attention of good citizens. The solution of it, in a Christian way, is one of the things that must come.

Among the means to be used is the creation and strengthening of Christian conscience in the matter. The opportunities which the Sunday School offers for this education are amongst the best. Sunday School Superintendents and teachers, as well as pastors, have large and grave responsibility in this matter.

A GREAT REVIVAL

Sydney, Australia, has for three months been experiencing a great revival of religion. There has been no definite count of conversions, but it is estimated that they number thousands. They are from all classes, especially from those usually untouched in ordinary church work. The Interior's report says, the results of the Sydney movement attest anew the divine pleasure in systematic, closely planned

movements of evangelization. The impulse to revival work in Sydney is traced to the example of the "Simultaneous Mission" in England last year. The English movement was solely a non-conformist enterprise, but in Sydney the Anglican ministers joined in the project with greatest heartiness, and all the Protestant forces of the city—including at the other extreme Quakers and Salvationists—were federated for this service in admirable unity. The work was laid out on the most thoroughgoing and comprehensive scope. The city was divided into fifty districts, in each of which a preaching center was fixed. This point of assemblage was never a church unless it was impossible to get any other meeting place. Halls and tents were generally used. Every evening two hundred street meetings were held just in advance of the services in the preaching places. To these open-air audiences the staidest and most formal ministers in the city presented the gospel with apostolic fervor. In not a few cases the willingness to do this kind of work signified an utter revolution in the life habits of the preachers. Yet all testified to a deep enjoyment of their outdoor labors, and several men popularly deemed cold and stiff developed remarkable powers of winning evangelism. The greatest tent was located at Hyde Park where a audience ran close to 4,000 and 1,500 usually stayed for inquiry meeting. Here more than 200 rose together one evening to express their desire for salvation. Noon meetings at Centenary Hall were attended daily by 1,500 business men, and not a few of the wealthy commercial leaders of the city there confessed Christ. Other noon meetings at factories and warehouses had like eternal results.

THE LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE.—The General Secretary of the Lords Day Alliance of Canada, Rev. J. G. Shearer, has been making a tour of this Province. He has organized a branch Alliance in each of the following places,—Campbellton, Dalhousie, Bathurst, Newcastle, Chatham Richibucto, Moncton, Dorchester, Sackville Sussex, St. Andrews, St. Stephen and Woodstock. He reports a decided increase of interest in the work of the Alliance throughout the Province. He was in this city last Sunday and preached in the Presbyterian and Methodist churches, and spoke also, in the City Hall. The annual meeting of the Provincial Alliance meets in St. John Wednesday of this week.

COULD BE ENFORCED.—Dr. J. J. MacLaren of Toronto, says: There is something more important than having public sentiment behind a law, and that is a government determined to enforce it. Our laws are not enforced by public sentiment, but by the government. Consequently, it is not necessary to have public sentiment behind an act to secure enforcement, if the government is in earnest about it. Instance our customs laws. The people are largely indifferent or antagonistic to them, yet because the government is interested they are reasonably well enforced. There are two classes of laws now being enforced which, in my opinion, are more difficult of enforcement than a prohibition law would be. There are the laws against gambling and prostitution. The gambling spirit, when it has a hold on a man, is stronger than the desire for drink. I see no reason why a prohibitory law could not be enforced.

NEW BRUNSWICK TOWNS.—The population of certain New Brunswick cities and towns is given out by the Census officials as follows:

Fredericton, 7,117; Dorchester, town and parish, 6,068; Chatham, 1,770; Dalhousie, town and parish, 2,183; Woodstock, 2,984; Bathurst, town and parish, 4,913; Newcastle, 2,507; Sackville, 2,863; Campbellton, 2,652; Shippegan parish, 3,786; St. Stephen, 2,840; Carleton parish, 1,132; Milltown, 2,004; Sussex, 2,280; St. Andrews, town and parish, 1,390; the town is 1,064; St. George, town and parish, 2,892, the towns is 1,558; Shediac, town and parish, 6,430; Richibucto, town and parish, 3,879.

FARMERS' MEETING.—The annual meeting of the Farmer's and Dairy-men's Association held in this city last week was not so largely attended as in former years. There were many excellent papers and addresses. Mr. Joseph R. Taylor, of Westmoreland Co., is the President for the present year.

SUCCESSFUL.—Rev. H. F. Adams spent a week in this city and vicinity in the interests of the Maritime Baptist Twentieth Century Fund of \$50,000. He reports that he raised \$2,000 in Fredericton, Marysville and Gibson.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

THE WORLD'S POPULATION.

The population of the world, according to the latest estimates, is between 1,500,000,000 and 1,600,000,000. Of these about 400,000,000 are in the British Empire. China has about the same number. Russia has 131,000,000; the United States, including the new possessions, has 84,233,069; France has 83,600,000, but of these 44,000,000 are Arabs, negroes, or Chinese; Germany has 56,367,178, an increase of 4,000,000 in five years.

PENITENTIARIES.

The report of the Minister of Justice is out. The Penitentiaries of the Dominion cost for the year \$402,538, an increase of \$53,386 over the previous year. The cost per capita was \$234.86. The average daily population of the penitentiaries during the year was 1405 slightly less than in the previous year. There are 54 life convicts. The ticket-of-leave system has worked satisfactorily.

THE C. P. R.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company is to increase its capital stock twenty millions of dollars. This is to be expended in double tracking the road west of Lake Superior, increasing terminal facilities, erecting more elevators, and generally enlarging and improving the plant. All this means that the road expects greatly increased business, especially in the west.

WORTH REMEMBERING.

Great Britain did more to prevent a European combination against the United States than was revealed in the official statement referred to last week. A close friend of the late President McKinley gives him as authority for the statement that "the European coalition against the Spanish-American war was dissolved by the avowed intention of Great Britain to use other means than diplomacy to frustrate interference."

Our neighbours might do well to remember this occasionally.

ANTI-PROTESTANT.

In certain circles in France the anti-Protestant feeling runs high. The Independent says that members of the nobility and high officers of the army have helped to raise a fund of half a million francs to establish a new Anti-Protestant organ, called La Deliverance. Generals and men of note venture to advocate violent methods of repression. They claim that they are persecuted. During the past 25 years the 600,000 Protestant minority have been ruling the 36,000,000 Catholic majority of France. They are the masters and we are the persecuted. All our statesmen who have been during this quarter of a century in power and have persecuted the Catholics have been Protestants. We are tired of being the suppressed, the persecuted, the conquered. Thus it seems a section of the majority manifests alarm. On the other hand the Protestants claim Protestantism is really making remarkable progress. Whole villages in some departments are calling out for Protestant pastors. They say "Our churches are prospering internally and externally."

CUBA.

The Presidential and Congressional elections in Cuba are to be held on the 24th inst. Municipal affairs have already been handed over to the Cubans themselves, but their administration has not in every respect been the best. In Havana an example of unwise and wasteful expenditure, with a needless numbers of officials, has been set, which other towns have been quick to imitate. The judicial system, unfortunately, has not been reformed. The courts are as corrupt and dilatory as under Spanish rule, and to the Cubans themselves is left the task of making this important reform. On the other hand, primary education has been organized, the Custom House has been put on a satisfactory footing, the industries of the island have been encouraged and railways have been developed. The rural population is much better off. The United States will hand over the reins of governments in May, retaining only control of foreign relations and bond issues. Many property owners in Cuba favour annexation by the States, but that is not the wish of the mass of the population.

BANISHED.

A Russian editor, who permitted what was regarded as an attack on the Imperial family to appear in his paper, has been banished for five years, and the writer of the objectionable article has been exiled for an indefinite period. The paper was suppressed. Russia is a hard place for newspaper men.

Japan, with practically the same poor laws as Great Britain, has only 24,000 paupers, while Great Britain has 100,000. A Japanese statesman, being asked to explain, replied "The Japanese drink tea; the British drink alcohol."

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PREMIERS INVITED.

Besides the Premier of the Dominion, the Premiers of the several Provinces have been invited to attend the King's coronation in June. And, of course they all will go.

"IRREGULARITIES."

Ballot-box "irregularities" have been discovered as having occurred in the election in St. James division, Montreal, a few weeks ago. The deputy returning officer in one poll and Mr. Brunet's representative at the poll have been arrested charged with conspiracy to commit illegal acts. The prosecution claims to be able to prove "that Bergeron's representative in the poll was bribed to close his eyes, and that Desey and Hetu, the men charged with the fraud, deposited a large number of ballots marked for Brunet in the box, and that, moreover, a number of ballots marked for Bergeron were removed and destroyed and replaced by others marked for Brunet. As the result the poll showed ninety votes for Brunet and four for Bergeron, whereas Bergeron should have had a majority of eight. Other arrests are expected."

OPPOSING IT.

The Ontario Historical Society, the United Empire Loyalists' Association and the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire held a joint meeting in Toronto last week to consider ways and means of preventing the erection of a monument to General Montgomerie at Quebec. It was decided to petition the governments of Great Britain, the Dominion and Quebec, and also the city of Quebec, against the proposal, and to ask the co-operation of other national societies in opposing it. These organizations are to be commended for the course they are pursuing in this matter.

MUST SPEAK FRENCH.

The latest orders issued by the Militia Department of Canada is that, "An officer on appointment to a unit of the permanent corps will in future be expected to apply himself to the study of the French language and will be required at the expiration of twelve months to be able to pass a satisfactory colloquial examination in that language."

Very soon an order may be expected requiring all the civil service employees to be able to speak French.

MISS STONE.

Miss Stone has been released several times in the last ten days—according to newspaper dispatches; but unfortunately, she is yet in captivity. It is now five months since she was abducted by brigands. She is a United States woman, a missionary of the American Board since 1878. It seems strange that the government of her country has not secured her release before this.

THE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER.

President Roosevelt's daughter wishes to attend the King's coronation in company with the United States representatives. Her desire is very natural, and one would think it might easily be gratified. But Senator Hanna and others who manage Presidential elections have, it is said, warned the President that his consent to his daughter's going would be a fatal political blunder. Which means that the Anti-British feeling would be arrayed against the President. And that is the miserable feeling to which those in high places in the United States are asked to defer. Let us hope that President Roosevelt will show his manly independence in this, as he has in some other things.

Admiral Schley has appealed to the President against the finding of the Naval Court in his case.

During the last year 2,753 persons from the United States took up homesteads in the Northwest, as against 1,851 in the year previous.

The second section of the Canadian Mounted Rifles sailed from Halifax for South Africa on Tuesday of last week.

The Newfoundland government has undertaken to renew the French shore modulus vivendi, which expired December 31, for the present year. This is done at the request of the British government.

Five hundred tons of Canadian flour is to be shipped in a few days to South Africa.

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GENERAL RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—The Rev. Dr. F. E. Clark, the father of the Christian Endeavor Society, sailed on Monday for a seven-month visit to Europe. He will give his personal efforts to the extension and establishing of the Society on the Continent, and especially in Central Europe, Scandinavia.

—Rev. Thos. Spurgeon says there is no falling off in the number of applications for admission to the Pastor's College. This College has sent forth 1,072 men into the pastorate. Of these 790 are now engaged in ministerial work, and 660 of them in Baptist churches and missions.

—From the annual report of the British and Foreign Bible Society it appears that 200,000 copies of the Scriptures were sold in Russia last year by 72 colporteurs. The bulk of this enormous circulation—nearly an eighth of the whole circulation of the society—is in the Russian and Slavonic languages, but Finnish and German are also largely represented.

—A centenary committee has been formed in connection with the one hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and at its inaugural meeting it was resolved to celebrate the centenary by increasing the Society's regular income and by an endeavor to raise a special fund of not less than 250,000 guineas to extend the Society's work throughout the world.

—What a field for mission work the great city of Chicago is! Its population is about 2,000,000. The Interior tells us that it has 750,000 Roman Catholics, and 150,000 declared evangelical Protestants. It has 1,000 outside all churches. The Presbyterians have 48 churches and 23 missions in the city, and just 20,000 members. They have resolved to build 8 churches in needy districts and to aid in this work they are raising \$141,000.

—The Seventh-day Baptist Missionary Society had last year in China 4 workers and 11 native workers; in Ayan Main, Gold Coast, West Africa, 2 native workers; in Holland, at Rotterdam and Kaarlem, 2 workers. In the home field 76 workers were employed for the whole or part of the year, under whose labors 159 members were added by baptism, 30 persons were converted to the Seventh-day doctrine, and 4 Sabbath schools, 3 Christian Endeavor Societies, and 1 church were organized. In the home field 5 general missionaries and 2 evangelists were employed, and 37 churches were aided in the support of pastors. Under all these laborers 119 members were added by baptism.

—Near the village of Wicklow in Northumberland county, Ont., lives a lady, Miss Susan Greely, who probably enjoys the honor of being longer in service than any Sunday School teacher in America—perhaps in the world. Miss Greely, who is a member of the Presbyterian church, is now 96 years of age, but she continues to teach regularly a Bible class which convenes each Sabbath at her home. She has been a Sunday school teacher in the same locality for 75 years.

Miss Greely's father was an American gentleman who came to Ontario at the end of the 18th century, but returned to the United States when war broke out, in 1812, and lived in Detroit. When Detroit was taken by the British, Miss Greely, then a young girl, was rescued from the burning city by some British soldiers, and escorted to Buffalo, where she remained until the close of the war. Then she returned to her father's homestead near Wicklow, where she has since resided.

—Comparing numbers of Church members with the total population, shown by the censuses of 1891 and 1901, it appears that the Presbyterians in Canada have gained 44,519 members, net, during the past ten years, showing a growth of 25 per cent, against a net increase of 10 per cent in the population of the whole country.

"The Canadian Baptist," comparing Church statistics with the census returns, finds that the Baptist adherents number a tenth part of the entire population of the Dominion, and that the increase of Baptists in the city has been larger than that of the population. Among the cities Brantford, Ont., counts the largest percentage of its population Baptist adherents, every third person of it belonging to a Baptist family.

Statistics of the young people societies of the Methodist Church in Canada show a decrease for 1900 of 1,996 societies and 1,996 members, and 1899 of 71 societies and 5,019 members.