

PACIFIC CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

"GO YE, THEREFORE, TEACH ALL NATIONS."

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Correspondence.

Berlin Letter.

(REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE.)

BERLIN, Sept. 19, 1879.

The undignified squabble now going on between the Prussian and German press is attracting a good deal more notice than it in reality deserves. It is merely the consequence of an essential personal animosity of long standing between Prince Bismark and Prince Gortschakoff, and, to fight it out, they have resorted to the only weapons they had at their disposal for the purpose. Prince Bismark wishes to force the dismissal of Prince Gortschakoff upon the Czar and the latter knows it. It was shortly after the Congress, when the Prussian Chancellor discovered that Prince Bismark was patronizing Count Schouvaloff, for the ostensible purpose of securing for him to succession to the Chancellorship, that Prince Bismark was patronizing Count Schouvaloff, for the ostensible purpose of securing for him the succession to the Chancellorship, that Prince Gortschakoff made the first attack against his enemy. Then came Bismark's slashing retort in the *Grenzboten*. He taxed Prussia with ingratitude. Knowing that to be the *corde sensibile* with every true Prussian. He drew up the balance of obligation between Prussia and Germany, revealing a good deal that was not known, all that did equally little credit to both parties concerned. In the mutual recrimination that has been carried on since there has really not been much that could possibly interest outsiders who were unacquainted with the nature of the quarrel. Prince Gortschakoff's utterances at Baden the other day served to revive hostilities, which were beginning to flag, but the fact that the Prussian Chancellor is practically *en retraite* divests everything he said of the grave significance it would otherwise have involved. Whether Prince Gortschakoff sympathizes with France or not must be a matter of comparative indifference to Prince Bismark, who knows better than anybody how much influence his Highness possesses at the present moment in the councils of the Czar. The strong and deep-rooted hatred with which these two statesmen are animated towards each other cannot affect the political relations between Russia and Germany beyond a certain extent. It has perhaps given rise to a momentary coolness, but nothing more. If Count Schouvaloff were to replace Prince Gortschakoff to-morrow there would be an end to it, and we should soon see the two Powers on the most cordial terms. In the present state of things Prince Bismark does not command that predominating influence at

St. Petersburg which he would have if Count Schouvaloff were to be appointed Chancellor of the Empire. M. de Giers is not Bismarkian, neither are M. M. Hamburger and Jomini. Then there is the possibility of Prince Gortschakoff's being called upon at a critical moment to resume the direction of affairs, and however remote that possibility may be, yet as long as Prince Gortschakoff remains titularly of the post; it will continue to exist. Such is briefly and, as it is understood here, the true character of the Russo-German newspaper war.

London Letter.

(REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE.)

LONDON, Sept. 26, 1879.

The report of the Select Standing Committee of the Dominion House on agricultural and kindred matters for the session of 1879 has just been issued. The inquiries of this committee were largely directed to the question of the cattle trade with Great Britain. It appears that while navigation remained open last year 18,655 head of cattle and 41,750 sheep were sent to this country. Some 9,000 of the cattle came from Chicago and the North-West, and the rest, together with all but some 1,000 of the sheep were raised in Canada. The export value of the whole was \$2,117,525, the cost of feed to put them in condition for the voyage \$130,602; and the freight paid to the various shippers for their carriage exceeded \$500,000. It also appears that three-fourths of the shipments made from New York and Boston were on account of Canadians, who have the export cattle made entirely in their own hands. In reply to the question whether the trade was likely to increase in the future one of the witnesses examined made reference to the fact that whereas only 18,600 head of cattle had been exported from Canada last year, the receipts in the market of Chicago alone were last year 1,038,608 head. In other words the entire shipments of the cattle by the St. Lawrence route to this country throughout the year only equalled some two days' receipts in the Chicago market, the years value of the one being just over \$2,000,000 and the years' value of the other being between \$65,000,000 and \$70,000,000. It may be mentioned that ten years ago the receipts of cattle in Chicago numbered only 333,000. It is estimated that the cattle available for export purposes in Ontario and Quebec (the two exporting provinces), number something like 10,000 or 12,000 head, so it is evident that any extensive development of the export from Canadian ports can only occur in the event of the embargo upon Western American cattle being removed. One of the principal witnesses examined (Mr. Thomas Cramp, of the Dominion Steamship Company) gave lengthy evidence as to the bearing and effect of the existing prohibition to export western cattle by way of Canada. The following are some of the chief points he stated:—

"The order of the Privy Council which has scheduled the United States necessitates the slaughtering of animals within ten days of the arrival on the other side of the Atlantic; at first this was a great blow to the trade, and the regulation which came into force in Canada appeared to secure for Canadians the advantage. But Canadians have so small a number of cattle to export that they are able to make use of that advantage

only to a small extent. At the same time, cattle cannot be exported from the Western States through Canada, so that this enormous trade from the United States is lost to Canadians and is done by American's, although Canadian capital is so largely invested in it. The trade is adapting itself to the ten days rule, and the time will no doubt come when Liverpool and Birkenhead will be the great cattle markets instead of Smithfield. Our geographical position has enabled us hitherto to tap the trade of the Western States, but it will now pass over American railways and American ground, and we will lose the advantage of it.

California Letter.

Bro. Campbell:

By this time you are, I presume, busily engaged with your college glasses and duties. But I hope you have not so soon forgotten your visit to California. Certainly we have not forgotten it, nor will we. In fact, we are not half done being grateful for it. How good it is to meet and confer with old friends, ever true to the right!

After much fatigue with the sick, I reached home, and found all on foot. Last Lord's day we had a nice Lord's day school, and a very pleasant meeting for worship at the Odd Fellows Hall, Oakland; and I feel encouraged to toil on in and for the only cause worthy of labor and suffering.

To-night, Oct. 10th, I commenced a meeting in Stockton. The difficulties are many, but the necessity is pressing, and the bishops of the church have determined on this course. The Lord guide and bless the effort. "He ruleth over all."

Since we are to make an effort for the more general circulation of the PACIFIC CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, it may be that I can aid some by a few remarks on

THE DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF EDITORS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

That we have failed to use the press properly is clear. In this particular we have been very "unfaithful stewards." We have not used it half enough, nor with wisdom and propriety, often, when we employed it at all. Like an instrument, with two edges and a point, it is to be used with care; but it must be used. To turn it over to the enemy, or enemies, and allow them to use it undisturbed, would be illustrated by men in war refusing, or failing to use the modern powerful weapons, while their enemies have them and used them with terrible effect. We have seen the abuse of the press by injudicious men, however well they meant, and we fear to "try again." This cannot be necessary or wise. Let us improve on the past.

But before proceeding further, allow me to say, I have no pecuniary interest in any paper, and that I have some experience and observation touching the use and abuse of the printing press. It is possible for men to become editors just to feel that they are editors! And others may write to see their names in print; yet I have no person or persons of either class in mind now. I know you have no itching for the scribes place. (Don't put this in Latin, please; English is better). I believe you have to be pushed up, and then propped in the editorial chair, by "a chain of well directed circumstances," or providences. And I believe, also,

that it is well, sometimes, to have a kind of compelling, or constraining force on and about us.

1. The first and most important qualification for a Christian editor is, I suppose, a sincere desire to promote the cause of Christ. Men may write or preach for other reasons; yet the prompting motive is vital, especially in an editor and preacher. If he is only aiming at a living—money making; or if he is seeking the praise of men, or anything beneath the skies, his low and groveling motive will probably cause low and faulty work—a failure.

2. They need good literary attainments, and a good style. In this fast age especially the press demands strong and educated men—first class men.

3. They need to be wise, also prudent; that is, able to judge of proprieties and improprieties. How many have failed here, plunging headlong into difficulties, from which they could never extricate themselves. It is here that personal difficulties come in; here hobbies are ridden to the death of the papers.

4. They must be working men, not in any sectional or partisan sense, but true, laborious workers, as far from saggards, or men of ease as men can get. For the amount of work is great, great beyond endurance generally. Aye! it is work that is needed here.

5. They should be men of strong faith; rising above party, above personal friends, above self—above all that is earthly. For, often the clouds are dark and lowering. Often the angry storm rages, the thunders roll, and the earth quakes. They need to believe and feel that the voice of the Lord is above the mighty waters; that he rules over all, and is forever blessed; and that though weeping endure for the night, rejoicing cometh in the morning. Such editors can wait for his reward, and hear the taunts and jeers of the unwise and erring.

6. Even so must his correspondents be wise, partaking largely of all the traits peculiar to the editor; just as a deacon needs the leading qualifications of a bishop.

DUTIES OF WRITERS.

These are both numerous and important. Take a few items:

1. They should have something to say, something of importance.

2. They should know how to say it—how and when to begin; the words to be used, and the arrangement of them, and when and where to stop.

3. They should know how to use a pen—how to write, and not presume too much on the education of printers.

4. Personal matters should not be allowed in a religious paper; as a rule. Hence if a man desires to glorify himself he is not prepared to write. So, if he desires to destroy or degrade others.

5. While writing for English readers it is not proper to indulge in Latin, Greek, or other foreign; phrases or words. Some common reader might conclude that the object was to show what the world calls learning.

6. They should always consider well and closely what they write. Will it honor God, or profit man? Will it promote peace and good will? or will it cause unnecessary controversy, bad feelings, discord, or other evil? Will it prevent evil or, do good?

7. After finishing an article, good writers go over, alter and amend, and often mark out largely; they pause to see how much they can mark out without losing an idea; how much they can lop off, and yet have the real good—all the real good—and that even more decided and forceable.

8. Doubtful matters should be left out; both by editors and correspondents. And this applies to words as well as themes. There is enough to speak and write about concerning which there is no doubt. Hard words, severe or bitter words, are always out of place, and if a word even borders on this objectionable style, it is better to omit it. "A soft answer turneth away wrath; while grievous words stir up strife."

9. But when you are sure of truth, and that the utterance of it is likely to do good, put it down. Put it down plainly; "whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear." Do not hesitate for personal popularity's sake, or to avoid suffering. Speak the truth, speak it boldly; and suffer for it if need be. Some people are very bold and out-spoken on most points, but on some they cannot speak out. A true Christian soldier can contend for the whole truth. "Whosoever things are pure," true, good, is his motto.

10. To please men, to increase the patronage of the paper—however laudable and desirable this may be—is not the object. Paul said: "If I yet please men I should not be the servant of Christ." Christ said: "How can ye believe who seek honor one of another, and seek not that honor that cometh from God only?" "Study to show thyself approved unto God." "Be thou a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

But without completing this subject, this may suffice. Too little may be better than too much.

When my meeting closes here, I may write again. And if our brethren will write from all parts of the coast, we will understand each other better. If then, you tell us what the other papers report, and much of their labors, we shall extend our vision, our joy and our strength. There is, and can be no good reason why this coast may not have a superior weekly (not weakly), devoted to the propagation of the Gospel. In the name of reason, why not? We excel in implements, &c. California is the oldest country in the world for its age. Why not excel in this grace also—in the use of the great power of the age—the printing press?

C. KENDRICK.

Stockton, Cal., Oct. 13, 1879.

—Rather a novel way of summoning people to church is that adopted by a Bristol clergyman. Just before the time for service he marches through the streets clad in white surplice and ecclesiastical hat; in one hand he carries a book marked with a large red cross, and in the other a bell, which he rings as he walks. He is accompanied by a boy with a lantern, and continually cries, "Come to church." Of course, he is followed by a curious crowd.

—In a fit of righteous indignation a Methodist pastor at Octonito, Wisconsin, informed his congregation that he would not preach any more for them until they paid him enough of his over-due salary to buy a suit of clothes decent enough for the pulpit.