

HOW METHODISTS MAKE CONVERTS

From the Indo-European Correspondence. The "Indian Witness" in a lengthy article tries to extenuate the blame laid upon some Methodist native preachers for their strange doings in connection with the baptisms at the late "mela" in Oude.

The charges against them were; 1. That the baptisms were secretly performed in a tent at night. 2. That the persons baptized were bribed by the payment of a few pice to induce them to submit to the ceremony. 3. That they were not baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity but of "Param Brahma" 4. That the alleged converts did not break their cast and had no idea that they were becoming Christians. 5. That the preachers used popular Hindu terms instead of those of Scripture, and were dressed more or less in the garb of Hindu religious teachers. 6. That the baptisms were performed by dipping a small branch of a tree in water and sprinkling the people with it, so as preserve their caste, etc

On all these charges our Methodist organ instituted an inquiry and found there was something true in each and something exaggerated. The most startling admission seems to us the following formula for baptism: "I baptize thee in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May Param Brahma baptize thee with his spirit."

Again those baptizing were seen with Hindu "Malas" around their necks, which is a strange manner of professing Christianity, even though it be pleaded that they purchased them only towards the close of the "mela".

Moreover, in defending themselves from the reproach of baptizing people without instruction, they pleaded that in some cases a party would be instructed for an hour or more. Sharp, practise this anyhow.

Finally they entered only the names and ages of the converts, making no entry of their place of residence, so that they had no security that the neophyte would get instruction, or be looked after afterwards.

In conclusion the "Witness" pronounces it "a good work badly done." What difference there is between this and "bad work," it may perhaps be able to see.

All this seems very strange, and that's the least we can say about it!—Mirror

Not Peace but a Sword

Christmas morning was chosen by the London "Times" for scribbling the gall engendered in a certain class of Englishmen by the Gladstone message of peace and good will to Ireland. In a leading article it hints that the knotty Irish problem could be cut with brutal promptness by ejecting the Parnellites from the House of Commons and proclaiming martial law in Ireland.

A strange Christmas greeting this to the upright, logical advocates of State rights for Ireland from once majestic journal in its greater and its better day spoke words of hope and comfort to the patriots of Italy and Poland! A strange evangel to be preached in the birthplace of liberation and peace societies, in the vaulted focus of radiant and benign civilization and on the hope-illuminated verge of the twentieth century!

It is well for England as for Ireland that this devilish mockery of a Christmas salutation is certain to provoke no feeling in fair-minded Englishmen but one of righteous sneer and sad scorn. Were it otherwise, were it conceivable that a British Parliament could wrench from Ireland the lawful weapon at party contention by which alone the sister kingdoms extorted the Reform bill and a repeal of the Corn laws—the utterers and guardians of law could drive their brethren from the ballot box to the shot gun and the bomb—then we should believe the British people to be smitten with the madness that foreruns a nations doom.

A Western Soldier Wants A Wife

The Rev. John J. Riordan, of Castle Garden, New York, has been requested by an Irish soldier at Fort Douglas, Utah to get him a wife. The peculiarity of the case is that the soldier, who is 32 years old doesn't want to marry her until 1890 when his enlistment expires, but her to homestead a quarter section of land for him meanwhile, and offers to pay her expenses West. He has got a quarter section in Oklahoma, or will have if the reservation is ever thrown open. He writes:

"I thought it would be thrown open to settlers, but this was not so, and I re-enlisted and purchased three lots in the city of Denver. I still own this property. It is very likely the Oklahoma lands will be thrown open. I came to the con-

clusion to consult you in regards to selecting for me a stout, healthy, sensible Irish woman who would be willing to become my wife and live and make improvements on the homestead referred to, or if not opened by the next Congress, in a similar case that might be taken up in Kansas.

"If you should agree with me in approving of my suggestions you should assist or have drawn out articles of agreement of our engagement, which would be just as binding as if the ceremony was performed. On these conditions I would send her \$75 to pay her fare to Coffeyville, Kansas. So in case this spring she would be present to go on the homestead at once I would be able to send her between \$25 or \$30 every two months during the next four years. With this amount of money and her own industry she ought to fare better than living out.

"I would prefer a plump woman of blond complexion, and possessed of a fair education—would rather marry such a woman on your recommendation and under such circumstances than to wed a young woman on two or three months' acquaintance, who might be able to be seeking a divorce in a few years.

A Detroit Artist Sees the Pope.

Architect Peter Dederichs, Jr., who just returned from a three months' visit to Europe, said to a reporter last evening: "I was agreeably surprised while in England to see the Detroit Free Press very extensively circulated. It made me feel as if I was at home, and I felt proud that the name of my native town was brought into great prominence through the wide-awake journal. In London I saw the name of the paper on every bus and street corner, and it did me good to see how the old home was honored." Mr. Dederich's mission was to study the architecture of the churches in the Old World. He inspected 1,600 edifices during a travel of 16,000 miles, in which he visited England, Ireland, France, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, and Holland. "I remained twelve days in Rome," said the gentleman "and had the honor of having an audience with Pope Leo. As travelers well know, the privilege of personally meeting the Sovereign Pontiff is a very difficult one to obtain. Before leaving home I got a letter of introduction from Rev. Bonaventura Frey, provincial General of the Capuchins, who was then stationed at the monastery on Mount Elliott avenue, to the general of the Pope's guard. I was notified when I could see the Holy Father, and on the appointed day met thirty other foreigners at the Vatican. Each of us had to wear full dress, and after passing through a number of apartments we were ushered into the presence of His Holiness. Pope Leo appeared as white as linen and delicate as a dove. He greeted us very cordially and spoke a few words to most of the callers. The Pontiff was attended by a cardinal, who seemed capable of many languages and acted as interpreter when it was found necessary. Pope Leo is a venerable appearing man. He was attired in white, with red slippers, and his manners are such that he cannot help to favorably impress all who have the pleasure of meeting him. He conversed with me about twelve minutes, and expressed gratification at meeting a member of his church from America. He inquired about the progress of his flock in the matter of new edifices, and appeared to be pleased with what I told him about the diocese in which I live. While in the Eternal City I visited all the important churches and saw the relics from the Saviour's time, which was sacredly guarded by the friars in charge of the edifices."

A Catholic Historical Society.

Application has been made to common pleas court, No. 3. Philadelphia, for the approval of a charter incorporating "The American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia," an organization formed for "the preservation and publication of Catholic American historical documents, the investigation of Catholic American history, especially that of Philadelphia, and the promotion of interest in Catholic historical research.

An Interesting Discovery.

A quantity of Roman coins of the periods between the reign of the Emperor Tiberius down to that of Aurelianus have just been discovered in the inland province of Shrdai, China.

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**WELLAND CANAL ENLARGEMENT.
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.**

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for the Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the eastern and western mails on Monday, the 25th day of JANUARY next, 1886, for raising the walls of the locks, weirs, etc., and increasing the height of the banks of that part of the Welland Canal between Port Dalhousie and Thorold, and for deepening the Summit Level between Thorold and Ramey's Bend, near Humberton.

The works, throughout, will be let in sections.

Maps of the several localities, together with plans and descriptive specifications can be seen at this office, on and after MONDAY, the 11th day of JANUARY next, 1886, where printed forms of tender can be obtained. A like class of information, relative to the works north of Allanburg will be furnished at the Resident Engineer's Office, Thorold; and for works south of Allanburg, plans, specifications, etc., may be seen at the Resident Engineer's Office, Welland.

Contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and, in the case of firms, accept there are attached the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of "Two Thousand Dollars" or more—according to the extent of the work on the section—must accompany the respective tenders, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works, at the rates stated in the offer submitted.

The amount required in each case will be stated on the form of tender.

The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary,
Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 9th December, 1885.



**NOTICE TO
CONTRACTORS**

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed respectively "Tender for Hot-water Heating Apparatus, Post Office, &c., Building, Winnipeg, Man.," and "Tender for Hot-water Heating Apparatus, Warden's House, Stony Mountain, Man.," will be received at this office until Monday, the 18th proximo for the erection and completion of HOT WATER HEATING APPARATUS, at the Post Office, &c., Building, Winnipeg, Man., and the Warden's Residence, Manitoba Penitentiary.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the Dominion Public Works Office, Winnipeg, Man., on and after WEDNESDAY, 30th inst.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an "accepted" bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, "equal to five per cent." of the amount of the tender which will be forfeited if the party declines to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
A. GOBELL,
Secretary,
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 29th Dec., 1885.

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