

in every part of creation one plan, one design, pervades the whole. The lecture concluded with a reference to man as maintaining a higher and nobler relation in the scale of being...

Such lectures as the foregoing are highly instructive as well as pleasing. They serve, emanating from such an ingenious and contemplative mind as Mr. Hill possesses, to keep us posted up in the latest advances in scientific investigation.

The narrowing of the classification into but four divisions is greatly in advance of the great Linnaeus who distributes the animal world into six classes, and each divided into several orders.

Beyond this, man defines the research of the philosopher. His nobler part was not formed out of the dust. The Lord God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

Correspondence.

St. John Correspondence.

Mr. Editor:—The last week was one of considerable interest to the Methodists of this city. Occupying as they do a primary position in the Eastern British American Conference, it is but reasonable to expect that their Missionary Anniversary should be an unusually attractive and refreshing season.

Leaving the details of the various preparatory sermons, and of the addresses delivered at the public meetings, to the pen of some better qualified narrator, I simply write these few lines to give your readers some general information respecting the prominent features of our late Anniversary.

It is distinguished by a deepened and fervent piety. We were happy in securing the services of our beloved President, Dr. Richey, whose lucid expositions of Divine truth, and heart-stirring application of its principles relating to the conversion of our world, seemed to stimulate within our church that love of Christ which "constrains us."

And doubtless also the sacred flame was increased by the many eloquent sermons which assailed in public and in private for the coming of Messiah's Kingdom.

While a vast amount of general information with regard to the Missionary work was imparted, and the great principles on which it is carried forward were reiterated and expatiated upon, we could not but observe that an unusual attention was given to what may be termed our own sphere of Mission labour.

The dedicatory services were held on Sabbath the 1st inst., when the Rev. Mr. Stewart preached at 11 o'clock, and Dr. Richey at 3 o'clock, to a large congregation.

It was opportune that in the same week our energies were quickened for the salvation of the heathen, we had the pleasure of witnessing the Dedication of another sanctuary to the worship of God among ourselves.

The choir consisting of singers from our various churches in the city, sang most admirably. Scarce ever before had such a spirit of elevating harmony for voices manifested by any musical instrument been heard in St. John.

St. John South.

He who suggested that the President of our Conference should be invited to St. John, to preach at the dedication of the Exmouth Street Church, in the depth of winter, found but few who encouraged him to be brave.

MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY. On that day our Missionary Sermons were preached by the President and the Rev. Messrs. Albrighton and Stewart.

The weather was unfavourable for the attendance of the people, so that the congregation was unusually large only at the Centenary Church at night. The collections, however, considerably exceeded those made at the anniversary sermons last year.

On Tuesday Jan. 27th, the public meeting was held in the German St. Church, Dr. S. S. Eaton, was the speaker, and the Rev. Mr. Eaton, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Eaton, were all our Ministers in the three churches of Saint John, together with Messrs. Hannah and E. E. Lockhart.

The principal meeting, of which Mr. Eaton was Chairman, was held in the Centenary Church on Thursday Jan. 27th. The Co-Delegate of the Conference, the Rev. Dr. Knight, gave a rapid but graphic sketch of his missionary life in Newfoundland.

The meeting was opened with singing, and prayer by the Rev. A. Desbray, after which the Rev. John McMurray took the Chair and stated the object of the meeting. Rev. A. Desbray was requested to act as Secretary.

The following Resolutions were then unanimously agreed to, after being spoken to, and enforced with great earnestness and ability:— I. Moved by the Rev. Mr. Burnett, seconded by Mr. James Moore, and supported by Mr. Thomas Dawson—

That in the judgment of this meeting every system of education not based on religious principles, and which does not recognize man's relation to the future, as well as to the present life, is essentially defective.

II. Moved by Mr. Henry Smith, seconded by Mr. John Boyver, supported by Mr. William Heard— That the Protestants of this Island are loudly called upon to use every legitimate means to ensure, that in the Normal and District Schools of this Island, the form of prayer heretofore ordered by the Board of Education, and heretofore used, shall not be discontinued; and, as a demand, as a right, that our children be daily instructed in the reading of the authorized version of Scriptures.

III. Moved by Mr. George Boer, seconded by Mr. Wm. McKay, supported by Mr. Bertram Moore— That the views of this Meeting, on these questions, be communicated to the Board of Education, by the Secretary, for the purpose of carrying out the objects of this Meeting.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS. We are now engaged in our Missionary Meetings. Thus far they have been well attended, and the results, so far as can be ascertained, have been most encouraging.

The meetings are held under the auspices of the Young Men's Methodist Missionary Society of this city, the special object of which is to raise funds for the missionary cause.

Methodists Family Gathering. The Methodists of this city and vicinity have recently had a family meeting, which was held in the Music Hall—the largest and most splendid hall in the city.

The Doctor's theme was "The elements and elements of character." The extemporaneous oration was worthy equally of the attractive subject, the Lecturer's just and pure oratorical fame, his well known interest in Institutions of this kind, and his ardent attachment to evangelical truth and Catholic Christianity.

threefold of public life. Dr. Patterson kindly reached out to him the supporting hand of disinterested friendship. These servants of Christ, how different has been their walk through life! The learned principal of the St. John Grammar School has usefully filled off since the first day of Decr.

Priscilla was in very early life the subject of very serious impressions, which resulted in her happy conversion when the future of life was full of golden promise. She then took the vanity so natural to her years to become a disciple of the Saviour, united with his people, and continued faithful unto death.

The Bible and the Public Schools in P. E. Island. In consequence of recent attempts made by the Romanists to infringe upon the privileges of Protestants in regard to the system of education in operation in this Island—a communication having been received by the Board of Education from the Roman Catholic Bishop, complaining that the Scriptures are read and a form of prayer used in the Normal and District Schools, which is not in accordance with the views of the Wesleyans of this Island, of the various denominations, feel called upon to resist any such attempt.

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The next special meeting of the Book Committee will be held (p. v.) at the Argyle St. Church in Halifax, on Wednesday, March 4th, at 11 A. M.

British Methodism. A correspondent of the Western Christian Advocate writing from London, on the 12th of December, says:— In some instances, a state of profound peace is merely the effect of spiritual stagnation.

Even in London, the most indifferent of all places in the kingdom to religion, the most difficult of all places to work in, partly in consequence of the prodigious pressure of competition in business in this great world mart, partly in consequence of the almost entire absence of any religious feeling among the inhabitants of the locality, and partly in consequence of the dearth of house rent, which forces the poor to be crowded up in small, miserable places, where decency can scarcely be observed, and where the unfortunate inmates soon lose their respect which is one of the guards of virtue—even in London we are visited with tokens of prosperity.

The good old days seemed to be revived a fortnight ago at City Road Chapel, the child and the burying-place of John Wesley—a noble and spacious old building, which in England is called the cathedral of Methodism.

The extension of the Provincial Railway has been vigorously prosecuted. The stream of eastern traffic has been tapped at the Grand Lake, and it is confidently hoped that ere the close of this year the line will be open to Windsor and Stewarke.

The Reports and Accounts of the Lunatic Asylum, which will also be before you, show that the building of that Institution has favourably advanced during the past season.

It was thought advisable that a further Survey should be had of the St. Peter's Canal by an experienced Engineer. The Report of the gentleman who was employed will be presented at an early day, and I invite your attention to a subject of so prominent interest to the whole eastern section of the Province.

Two measures have also been prepared, and will be immediately submitted to you, the one having for its object the more efficient protection of the Crown Lands, and the other, a more easy and economical process of Excise.

The subject of the Mines and Minerals, I regret to say, is still unsettled, the Home Government having been hitherto unable to come to a determination on this complicated and in various respects so important a subject. The correspondence will show it has engaged the anxious solicitude of my government, and I entertain the hope that the great

most interesting occasion, and we trust will be highly promotive of union and fellowship among us. Boston, Jan. 24th 1857. CECLIC.

Obituary Notice. MISS PRISCILLA CHURCHILL. Priscilla was in very early life the subject of very serious impressions, which resulted in her happy conversion when the future of life was full of golden promise.

The English correspondent of the Pittsburg Christian Advocate closes one of his last letters thus: "The Methodist portion of British Christianity has not been so vigorous as it is now for the last ten years. The President of the Wesleyan Conference for the present year, Rev. Robert Young, belongs to those who believe in revival; that Methodism began with a revival, and can only be perpetuated by a repetition of baptisms from on high. This, has, doubtless, exercised a good influence upon the whole connection, and some over-zealous and timid disciples of John Wesley are now cherishing the revival spirit as they have not ventured to do for many years. We shall hope, then, at the next Conference, to be cheered by a considerable accession to our membership. Although scarcely half our Methodist year has passed away, most of our leading ministers are accepting invitations to their next circuits. Rev. F. A. W. who closes his third year in Liverpool next Conference, is understood to have accepted an invitation to the eighth London circuit. Our present President, Mr. Young, expects to go to Newcastle. Rev. Thomas Lewellyn to the sixth London circuit; Rev. W. Andrews to the eighth London circuit; and Rev. John Farrar to the first London circuit. A letter was read in the monthly Missionary Committee, in London, last Wednesday, from Rev. Wm. Arthur, written from Rome, from which it appears that Mr. Arthur's health had slightly improved. Mr. Arthur will remain in Italy for a few weeks, and then proceed to the Holy Land."

Special Notice. The next special meeting of the Book Committee will be held (p. v.) at the Argyle St. Church in Halifax, on Wednesday, March 4th, at 11 A. M.

Provincial Wesleyan. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1857. Communications designed for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence. We do not undertake to return rejected articles. We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of our correspondents.

Provincial Legislature. Opening of the Session. On Thursday the 5th inst., the Legislative session was opened with the usual formalities. The following is a copy of His Excellency's SPEECH.

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly. I meet you again in Parliament with feelings of unmitigated pleasure, and I trust that your deliberations will result in measures promotive of the best interests of the thriving and loyal Province.

Annated by true British feeling, and warmly interested in the conduct and progress of the late War, though happily exempted from its disasters and burdens, the people of this country, in common with their fellow subjects in every part of the Empire, have reason to be deeply grateful for its successful termination, and I am sure will unite with me in a fervent prayer that the benign and sustaining influences of peace may long continue to advance and extend the prosperity and happiness of the nation at large.

The accounts for the past, and the estimates for the current year, will be forthwith submitted to you. My exception from penitence of every kind during the past year, through the protection of a merciful Providence, demands our deepest gratitude.

The labour of the husbandman within our borders in the past season have been richly rewarded; and the truly arduous and remunerating prices of all kinds of farm stock and produce, I am happy to find, have contributed largely to the well being and comfort.

I confidently feel that the recent importations of improved stock will result in general advantage to the farming classes, and hope that you will be disposed to encourage, by liberal grants, an object of such vital importance to the agriculture of the Province.

I regret to learn that the fisheries, more especially in the autumn, have disappointed the hopes of the hardy and enterprising bold who derive their subsistence from that great branch of Provincial industry.

I am happy to acquaint you that the revenue has somewhat exceeded that of last year, and gives continued proof of the increasing prosperity and active industry of the people.

interests involved will be considered and disposed of in a manner acceptable to the people. Since the close of the last Session, private enterprise has completed a Telegraphic union of the North American Provinces by a Submarine Cable connecting Newfoundland with Cape Breton.

A still larger experiment is about to be made for carrying Telegraphic Communication across the Atlantic. The Company by whom it is projected have entered into arrangements for conveying their messages across our territory, and the inhabitants of this Province, as well as of the other parts of the American Continent, have a deep interest in their success.

The members of Assembly having returned to their own chambers—the Address was, as usual, reported and read. The Honourable Provincial Secretary, Sir John A. Macdonald, was sworn in by the Clerk, and took their seats.

The Hon. Mr. JOHNSTON rose and addressed the House. After some preliminary remarks, he submitted the following resolutions:— Resolved, That it is essential to the satisfactory result of the deliberations of this House on the important measures submitted by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in his Speech of introduction, and under various public interests, that her Majesty's Executive Council should enjoy the confidence of this House; and therefore this House feels it to be respectful to His Excellency, and due to the people we represent, to declare, before these subjects are brought under debate, in answer to His Excellency's speech, that the present Executive Council of His Excellency do not possess the confidence of the representatives of the people; and that it is the humble duty of this House respectfully to inform His Excellency that the confidence of this House, so essential to the public welfare, and the harmonious co-operation of this House with the administration of public affairs, which is enjoyed by His Excellency's present constitutional advisers.

Mr. MARSHALL rose to second the resolution of his member from Annapolis. As the vote was not exactly the proper time to go to length on the subject, he would simply remark, that he seconded the resolution from the conviction that in his mind last session that the Government did not enjoy the confidence of the House—and he was of the same opinion still.

The Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL rose and remarked upon the unusual course pursued by the leader of the opposition and after some conversation had ensued the consideration of the resolution was postponed until the address in answer to the speech should be moved.

The address (as usual an echo of the speech) was then moved by Mr. McLellan and seconded by Dr. Webster.

FRIDAY FEB. 6th. This day Mr. JOHNSTON moved his resolution by way of amendment to the address in answer to His Excellency's speech. He did not design, he said to offer any lengthened observations, but the confidence reposed by the people in that House, and the confidence accorded by the House to the Executive were of so grave import that it should be clearly known on what this confidence was based. He assumed, what he could be no matter of doubt to honorable members, that the present administration did not possess the confidence of the House. He referred to the last session of the Assembly, commencing with taunts and terminating with the admission that no measure of importance had been passed. The blame was conveniently attributed to the new members, but no vote should have been guided by the ancient motto of the Executive. Was there nothing to do—nothing required to be done? Why then take at least ten weeks to do nothing in? The Hon. gentleman then arraigned the Government for having exerted their influence to prevent the Bill of last session prohibiting the importation of liquor from becoming law, after it had already received the support of some of their political friends.

Was it not due to their friends and supporters that when they came to this city, to fulfil their duties, they should be informed of the views and opinions entertained by the Executive upon a question of such vital importance as that which I have referred to. Sir, in the action of the Executive there is an exhibition of a moral Stamp which shows the strength of their position, and only by brazen audacity, was not the outrage to which I have referred purely administrative? Was it not the duty of an Executive to have grappled with the question in a bold and fearless manner? Did the hon. and learned Attorney General, in the view of the course he pursued during the last session, do justice to his friends, to the cause, to the Legislature, or to the country? Was it not his duty to have ascertained the views of his friends before he enunciated his opinions and took the course which placed them, in the least of it, a most awkward position?

Again, Sir, it was announced by a supporter of the hon. and learned Attorney General, at the last session, as a portion of their political faith, that the public affairs of the Province should be divided among the political supporters of the government; in fine, that to the victors belonged the spoils. That doctrine was assented to by him—it was met and controverted by those who were the public officers of the Government. He did not perceive that the public officers were to be entirely the reward of political partisanship—and that men should be displaced because they chose to exercise the privileges of freemen. That doctrine did not meet with the unqualified sanction even of those who accorded the government their unwavering support; and, Sir, in my judgment, it is a doctrine that should not be proposed, sanctioned or sustained by any government charged with the administration of public affairs in this province.

The honorable gentleman then referred to the introduction of the Educational Bill last session, which was promised in January, did not make its appearance till a month afterward—and passing through various stages, was finally transmitted by the hands of the Attorney General himself. This was an important question, and I can not doubt it was so regarded by the government. The measure was here for weeks. We hear nothing of it in the present speech, as if it was of nothing worth to the people of Nova Scotia. It may be a difficult subject to deal with, but it was presented to this House by the Attorney General, and should have been carried through, or the Government should have resigned.

The honorable gentleman next discussed the conduct of the Government in the appointment of School Commissioners in the County of Annapolis, and closed with the remark: It is sufficient to say that while the government of last session promised an exposition of policy last session, their present exposition of policy

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