

o'clock. Under impressions which it would be in vain to attempt to describe, I knocked at his door and requested a short interview. I related to him, as well as I could, the object and occasion of my untimely visit; and no sooner did I begin to speak than the tears began to flow from his eyes—eyes which had probably never before wept for sin, or looked up for pardon and salvation. Apparently under the deepest conviction of sin, and with a full apprehension of the danger of his case, he besought me to pray with him, and for him.

"The result was a marked and happy change, a subsequent consecration of himself to the service of God—a life, for a few years, of habitual obedience to the Divine will, a triumphant faith in the hour of death, and an assured hope of a blessed immortality."—*Annals of the Rev. Mr. Wesley.*

#### The Christian Life must be Progressive.

"Be always displeased at what thou art, if thou desirest to attain what thou art not; for where thou hast pleased thyself, there thou abidest. If thou sayest, I have enough, thou perishest; always add, always walk, always proceed; neither stand still, nor go back; nor deviate; be that steadily still, proceed not; be that goeth back, continueth not; be that deviateth, revolteth. He goeth better that creepeth in his, than he that runneth out of his way."—*St. Augustine.*

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

Original Matter is particularly requested for this Paper; such as, Local Intelligence—Biographies—Notices of the Introduction, &c., and progress of Methodism in Circuits, Revivals, and remarkable Conversations—Articles on education, temperance, missions, science, and religion—Illustrations of Prophecy—Sketches of Remarkable characters—Interesting descriptions of new countries—Papers on any prominent feature of the times, &c. &c. All matter must be sent to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name of the contributor, and the address to which any communication may be sent.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT AT WALLACE.)

#### Account of the Revival at Pughwash, &c.

In my last I gave some account of the revival of religion at Pughwash, and promised to afford some further information respecting the work of God at the head of the Bay and at Pughwash.

We commenced a series of religious services at the head of Wallace Bay, on Friday the 30th March, and with the assistance of Brother Wood, we were enabled to hold a public service at Pughwash every evening, in the mean time. The meetings were numerously attended; and God was pleased to own and bless the means employed for the advancement of His kingdom. During the three first days several persons obtained the pardoning mercy of God; but on Tuesday the power of God was especially manifested, and eighteen persons were justified from all their past offences, and reconciled to God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. This was indeed a happy day, a day of holy triumph and pure delight among the followers of the Lamb. Well might the Prophet say—"Arise shine for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

There was but little opposition manifested during the revival; however, there were some persons to speak evil of the things they understood not, and to cry out against this method of winning souls to Christ.

The case of one man may not be uninteresting to some of your numerous readers. The wife of the person referred to was a member of the Church and enjoying the comforts of true religion in her own soul. She was desirous that her husband and children should be partakers of the same inestimable blessing. She persuaded her children to attend the protracted meeting, which they did, and four of them were converted to God. The father was opposed to his sons becoming religious, and said that "his sons had been imposed upon and dragged to the penitent bench." However God has the hearts of all men in His hand and He can subdue them to himself. After the prayer-meeting, which had been held at his house, was concluded, and he had retired to rest, he began to reflect upon the opposition he had given to his children, the manner he had treated those who had conversed with him on religious subjects, and that the meeting through his means had been removed from his house, and sorrow took hold upon him. He regretted the course he had pursued and resolved to lead a new life. His friends were surprised the next evening to see him in the house of prayer. Since then he has joined the Wesleyan Church and professes to enjoy the favour and peace of God. May he live to God during his sojourn here on earth and then die triumphantly in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ!

During those meetings every person who had obtained the mercy of God appeared very desirous that others, and especially their friends, might obtain the same invaluable blessing. It was affecting, and yet pleasing, to see fathers and mothers, with their beloved children, kneeling together, bewailing their manifold sins and transgressions, and earnestly and fervently pleading with God for pardon and salvation through the atonement of Christ. But it was much more delightful to look upon the happy countenances, and to listen to the pleasing statements, of those who had been brought into the "liberty of the children of God." "O what power to save was present—what joy—what gladness flowed into the hearts of God's dear children! Shouts of joy and songs of conquest were heard on every side. These were the victories gained on Zion's side—these the triumphs of the Saviour's Cross—these the trophies of the world's Redeemer—May the time not be far distant when the whole earth shall be filled with the glory of God and all flesh see His salvation!"

Of the seventy who professed, during these services, to be either justified, or reclaimed from a backslidden state, forty-five gave in their names as candidates for membership; of the remaining twenty-five, several had connected themselves with the Church, and a few remain untaught with any Communion. To the present, those who have joined themselves with us in Church-fellowship, stand fast in the Lord. A very precious and delightful influence pervades our various Church-services; and we hope and pray that God will continue to pour upon us the heavenly and soul-reviving influences of His Holy Spirit.

I would just state that the public Fast was observed here on the 12th ult., and that the religious services connected therewith were not only well-attended, but rendered a very great blessing to those who engaged in them. God is in the midst of His people. W. C. B. Wallace, 10th July, 1849.

#### THE BRITISH CONFERENCE.

(Extracts from the Watchman of July 25th.)

#### The Committee of Conference.

The formal meeting of the CONFERENCE is preceded, as most of our readers know, by the meeting of various COMMITTEES, the importance and interest of which, are second only to those of the great assembly itself. These Committees, formed of both ministers and laymen, review the administration of those various branches into which our church activities are ramified. One has charge of the schools, for the sons of our ministers. Another watches and guards our progress in chapel building. The support of aged ministers and of ministers' children, the Connexional literature, the Sabbath question, the movement for establishing Catechumen classes, the Education scheme, and the Missionary enterprise, all have their separate Committees, which review their past course, and take counsel as to their future direction. It will at once be seen that the majority of these Committees are occupied with movements essentially progressive; some, as for instance the Children's Fund, and the Auxiliary Fund, are schemes for the sustentation of the ministry; but nearly all the others relate either to the natural developments of our system, or to distinct efforts to spread religion at home and abroad. The Contingent Fund ought to be wholly a resource of progress; but is compelled by Circuits which do not meet their proper claims, to become in many cases an Auxiliary to our plans of sustentation, instead of being, as is most desirable it should be, wholly devoted to home missionary objects. We cannot look over the list of Committees, and consider the various branches of Christian operation with which they are charged, without feeling devout gratitude, that our Body is permitted to conduct so many, and so extensive efforts, for the real welfare of our sinful race.

The Reports will put our readers in possession of the main facts, which have transpired, during the deliberations of the Committees. The points of encouragement and interest are many. It will be remarked, with special pleasure, that in the Committee, of the Kingwood and Woodhouse Grove Schools, Mr. Cusworth, gave an account of a revival which has just occurred among the boys, at Kingwood. This is the more hopeful, as we know that, of the boys who professed conversion during a former revival at that school, not less than twenty are now to be found in our ministry. Wesley College had, in the Autumn, a remarkable visitation of grace, and it is highly pleasing that a like mercy has been shed on one of the schools devoted solely to the sons of ministers. While the Lord deigns to visit not only our congregations, as He has lately done in so many places, but also our schools, we may joyfully take heart, and go forward.

The resources of the Contingent Fund continue to be much taxed, by the failure of Circuits to provide houses for the whole number of ministers—This is to be regretted, as it circumscribes our means of carrying the gospel into destitute localities, and materially retards the spread of vital religion among the neglected portion of the British population.

The report of the Chapel Fund shows that, throughout the Connexion, a strong progressive tendency exists and is in vigorous development. But, as in other years, it is evident that zeal does not always wait upon prudence, but often leaves it far behind. Many will persist in building Chapels burdened with heavy debt. This is unwise and lamentable. Mr. Head, in proposing to prohibit for two years, all building, except where the whole expense is paid, indicated a severe remedy for a dangerous evil. The Committee did not think it right to adopt his proposal, and we have no doubt their judgment will meet with general concurrence, and eventually with his own; but the fact that a man so judicious, so conversant with the case, so devoted to our Connexional interests, and so capable of large views, should propose this measure, will act healthfully upon the Connexion, by calling attention to the great evil he deprecated, and by urging our friends to seek, by voluntary exertions, the result which he proposed to secure by enactment. Immense benefits to the whole country would follow, could we only build our Chapels without debt, and devote to purposes of real progress the sums now unhappily buried in payment of interest.

At the Book Committee it was gratefully acknowledged, on all hands, that the character of the Magazine, had much improved within the last few months. The Christian Miscellany also, was shown to have reached the large circulation of about 60,000 copies, and is thus one of the most widely circulated, as it is the cheapest, religious periodical in the country. It was gratifying also to find, that the various revivals, which have increased our Societies, have also increased the demand for books of devotion in the various parts of the country.

In the Committee of the Auxiliary Fund it proved that our people, in their classes, have generally manifested their desire to carry out that scheme, by which each member contributes, once a year, a single sixpence, towards the support, in old age, of all the ministers under whom they may profit. This is gratifying; and the feeling is sure to grow; that sum annually, for the comfort of the hoary or enfeebled pastors of our souls, will cheerfully be given by all who understand the case. Notwithstanding the encouraging aspect of the contributions in the classes, it will be found that the private subscriptions to this Fund are not adequately sustained, and that therefore a danger of embarrassment exists.

The deliberations of the Sabbath Committee, the denunciation by Mr. Head of the railway vices, and the various opinions and facts brought forward, will tend to raise yet higher the holy jealousy for God's blessed day, with which many hearts are already burning, and will fortify all who strive to oppose the desolating progress of reckless cupidity.

Few, perhaps, anticipated that the Catechumen Committee would be able to present a report, so full of encouragement, as that which they actually produced. Twenty-one thousand young persons, already gathered into these admirable classes, is a fine earnest of the two hundred thousand promised by Mr. Samuel Jackson. And when we remember that the Sheffield West Circuit contains 1,560, and the Leeds Second Circuit 800, Catechumens, it will at once strike our Ministers that, were the whole surface of the Connexion diligently cultivated, the result would be such as to justify the hopes of the venerable originator of this movement. The fact that one class, which has existed for some seven or eight years, has conducted into the Church fifty members, will not fail to produce its due effect. And as the villages around Sheffield have, many of them, their prosperous Catechumen Classes, we feel relieved from the fear that the system can be worked only in towns of considerable population.

The kindred movement, for the establishment of Week Day Schools, has now attained a position that encourages us to hope, that we shall soon possess in this metropolis a Training College not inferior to any in the Empire, and that throughout the Connexion we shall soon be vigorously discharging that sacred duty to the coming generations of the populace, which the experience of every day, more forcibly attests to be laid upon us by the will of God. We can hardly conceive of a more pleasing use of wealth, than to find a youth of piety and talent, whom poverty compels to bury his abilities, to give him the means of defraying his expenses at

the Training College, and thus to provide him, at a very small cost, with the means of spending intelligently, and with eminent usefulness a life which, but for such aid, might have passed on obscurely in some mechanical drudgery. The details of the Committee-meeting are too important not to attract the notice of all our readers; and we are assured they will be encouraged, stimulated and led to feel that our body and our country owe much to the devoted Chairman, and members of that Committee.

On the whole, the Committee meetings have worn a character well fitted to raise our hopes, that the prosperity of the past year, will prove the prelude to a Conference marked by union and happiness, and to a new year of unity, vigour, and success.

#### WESLEYANA.

#### Anecdote of Rev. John Wesley.

Mr. Dudley was one evening taking tea with that eminent artist, Mr. Culy, when he asked him whether he had seen his gallery of busts. Mr. D. answered in the negative, and expressing a wish to be gratified with a sight of it, Mr. Culy conducted him thither; and after admiring the busts of the several great men of the day, he came to one which particularly attracted his notice, and on enquiry found it was the likeness of the Rev. John Wesley. "This bust," said Mr. C., "struck Lord Shelburne in the same manner it does you, and there is a remarkable fact connected with it, which, as I know you are fond of anecdotes, I will relate to you precisely in the same manner and words that I did to him." On returning to the parlour, Mr. C. commenced accordingly: "I am a very old man; you must excuse my little failings, and, as I before observed, here in the very words I repeated to his lordship: My lord, said I, perhaps you have heard of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodists. 'O yes,' he replied; 'He—that race of fanatics.' Well, my lord, Mr. Wesley had often been urged to have his picture taken, but he always refused, alleging as a reason that he thought it nothing but vanity; indeed, so frequently had he been pressed on this point, that his friends were reluctantly compelled to give up the idea. One day he called on me on the business of our church; I began the old subject of entreating him to allow me to take off his likeness. Well, said I, knowing you value money for the means of doing good, if you will grant my request, I will engage to give you ten guineas for the first ten minutes that you sit, and for every minute that exceeds that time you shall receive a guinea. 'What,' said Mr. Wesley, 'do I understand you aright, that you will give me ten guineas for having my picture taken? Well, I agree to it.' He then stripped off his coat, and lay on the sofa, and in eight minutes I had the most perfect bust I had ever taken. He then washed his face, and I counted to him ten guineas into his hand. 'Well,' said he turning to his companion, 'I never till now earned money so speedily; but what shall we do with it?' They then wished me good morning, and proceeded over Westminster-bridge. The first object that presented itself to their view was a poor woman crying bitterly, with three children hanging around her, each sobbing, though apparently too young to understand their mother's grief. On inquiring the cause of her distress, Mr. Wesley learned that the creditors of her husband were dragging him to prison, after having sold their effects, which were inadequate to pay the debt by eighteen shillings, which the creditors declared should be paid. One guinea made her happy! They now proceeded on, followed by the blessings of the now happy mother.

On Mr. Wesley inquiring of Mr. Barton, his friend, where their charity was most needed, he replied he knew of no place where his money would be more acceptable than in Giltspur street Compter. They accordingly repaired thither, and on asking the turnkey to point out the most miserable object under his care, he answered, if they were come in search of poverty they need not go far. The first ward they entered they were struck with the appearance of a poor wretch who was greedily eating some potato skins. On being questioned, he informed them that he had been in that situation, supported by the casual alms of compassionate strangers for several months without any hope of release, and that he was confined for the debt of half a guinea. On hearing this, Mr. Wesley gave him a guinea, which he received with the utmost gratitude, and he had the pleasure of seeing him liberated with half a guinea in his pocket. The poor man on leaving his place of confinement, said, 'Gentlemen, as you came here in search of poverty, pray go up stairs if it be not too late.' They instantly proceeded thither, and beheld a sight which called forth all their compassion. On a low stool, with his back toward them, sat a man, or rather a skeleton, for he was literally nothing but skin and bone; his hand supported his head, and his eyes seemed riveted to the opposite corner of the chamber, where lay stretched out on a pallet of straw a young woman in the

last stage of consumption, appressed with an infant by her side which Mr. Wesley immediately sent for a nurse, but it was too late for the nurse, who expired a few hours after arriving, as the doctor declared, imagining, my lord, that the remains would not go far in aiding at this. No expense was spared for the only now surviving sufferer; was the weakness to which he was six weeks elapsed before he could only to relate his own history. had been a reputable merchant, a beautiful young lady eminent, whom he almost idolized. They together for some time, until by calculation in which his whole property he was completely ruined did he become acquainted with than he called all his creditors to before them the state of his affairs his books which were in the most They all willingly signed the deed the lawyer, who owed his rise in this merchant; the sum was £225 obstinately declared he should not It was in vain the creditors urged forlorn condition, and to consider spectatibility. That feeling was a breast, and in spite of all their re was hurried away to prison, I weeping wife.

As she was very accomplished to maintain herself and her husband solely by the use of her pen small ornaments on cards. I managed to put a little aside for confinement. But so long an illness exerting herself for their scanty savings were soon exhausted, the necessities which he required. They were driven to the streets, and their resources failed themselves at last reduced to abject The poor infant had just expired the hapless mother was about to grave when Mr. Wesley and his and, as I before said, the husband from the same cause, that with care, he must have fallen a sacrifice Wesley was not for doing things acquainted himself with this misery, he went to the creditor them of it. They were beyond asked to learn what he had to do so long a time had elapsed with the thing of the merchant or his far posed him to be dead, and oh! quitted the country. Among them on the lawyer, and painted to his glowing colours, the wretchedness and which he (the lawyer) sentimental in causing; but even gave him to compassion. He declared should not leave the prison every farthing. Mr. Wesley visit to the other creditors, who, of the sufferer, agreed to release him. Some gave £100 and another £300. The affairs took a different turn; God see him; and in the second year he and his wife, thanked them for and paid the sum so generously continued to attend him; to pay all his debts, and after considerable property. His such a deep impression upon him determined to remove the poor suffering from the same cause purpose advanced a considerable donation fund for the relief of the very first person who part was the inexorable lawyer!

#### Methodism.

Methodism was at first a simple the spirit of Christianity in Church. Its Founder was a P Church. Its earliest disciples were by a deep and earnest piety, made for the Church of their

Meek, simple followers of the They lived, and spoke, and thought the ecclesiastical hostility soon to encounter, and above all aims an spiritual polity, comprehensive position, and gave to a untold and novel independent distinction of "dwelling people."

Instead of the fathers are standing upon an eminence gaily and still rings, embracing and governed by the same laws. great population of the country and this portion of that of Au