

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1879.

HALIFAX MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.

Sermons on behalf of the Missionary Society will be preached on Sabbath, Nov. 30th, Brunswick St. Church at 11 a. m. by the Rev. D. D. Currie, Editor of the WESLEYAN; at 7 p. m. by the Rev. John McDougall, Chairman of the Saskatchewan District; and in Grafton St. Church at 11 a. m., Rev. John McDougall. 7 p. m. Rev. D. D. Currie.

The Anniversary Meetings will be held at Brunswick St. Church on Monday evening, Dec. 1st, and at Grafton St. Church on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd, commencing at 7.30.

Addresses will be delivered by the departure—Revs. McDougall and Currie—and other gentlemen. Collections will be made at all these meetings on behalf of the funds of the Society.—Com.

THE TIME FOR EFFORT.

The revolving year brings a time for work of many kinds. This is the season for special effort to sustain the subscription list of the WESLEYAN, and to secure the names of many new subscribers. An examination of the lists of subscribers, to this paper, in the several circuits of our eastern Conferences, has convinced us that an earnest effort, on the part of our ministers, to sustain our present circulation, and to extend it among our people, would give us a subscription list, stronger, by a thousand names, than our total list of subscribers now is.

We earnestly request our ministers, throughout every part of our eastern work, especially, to give themselves, in right good earnestness, to this work, at their earliest possible convenience. It is expected that the canvass for this work, for each circuit, shall be under the direction of our ministers.

The enterprises of our Church need, the cause in which we are enlisted needs, our weak struggling circuits need, that the WESLEYAN shall be circulated in as many of the families of our people as possible.

If our ministers will, kindly, remember how much we depend upon them, and will promptly give some time, and effort, to the interests of our paper, and will push on the work with tact, and vigor, we are sure that the desired results will ere long appear.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Rev. John McDougall of Saskatchewan, and son of the late Rev. George McDougall, will enter upon a series of Missionary services, at Charlottetown, on Sunday next. He will speak, almost every evening, for about three weeks, on the subject of missions, in Nova Scotia, during the month of December. He will then visit New Brunswick, and will give about the same length of time, to the same work, in that Province. He comes to us under the direction of the General Missionary Committee.

There is a marked peculiarity about our missionary anniversary meetings, this year, inasmuch as they will constitute a kind of duplicate series, involving, to a great extent, a second presentation to our people of the same general subject; and a second financial demonstration of their faith in our missionary movements, of their interest in the welfare of perishing souls, and of their loyalty to the great Head of the Church.

The timid, hesitating, and desponding amongst us, if any such there are, may be fearful of the results. But those, who recognize the real grandeur of this cause of missions, the magnitude of the movement, and the beneficial results that must surely follow, will not shrink from coming, at this call of our church, to the help of the Lord of hosts.

We are very well aware that the times, through which we are passing, are times that try men's souls. May it not be that, on this very account, we should attempt to do grander things for Christ, and for his Church. We are asked this year to bear a double burden for the sustentation of our missions. But who amongst us will say that this is too much for us to do? Who, amongst us, has ever done too much for our Lord? Let us have faith in God. Let us with thanksgivings compass his treasury. And, then, let us trust his grace for the emergencies of the time to come.

THE ATONING ADVENT.

For more than a thousand years the greater part of the Christian church has made Advent the beginning of the church year. Advent begins with the Sunday nearest St. Andrew's day. The festival of Advent, as a church ordinance, includes four Sundays next preceding Christmas. This festival was intended to bring before the people the coming of Christ in its several aspects. As the year is hastening toward the solstice, and the days are growing shorter, and the shadows are lengthening, and the festival of the Nativity is coming on apace, it is especially appropriate that we should think of the coming of the Son of man.

The faithful people of God, during the entire period of the duration of the old dispensation, cherished the faith and hope that the desired Deliverer would come, according to the promise. Abraham saw Christ's day, and was glad. Jacob, as he lay a dying, looked, with his inspired eye, through the changing vicissitudes of seventeen hundred years, and saw the Shiloh come. With his prophetic tongue he gave utterance to the definite and encouraging prediction that: "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

David exclaimed, in the midst of one of his Psalms, a thousand years before the Saviour appeared, speaking of the Messiah King: "For he cometh, for he cometh."

Seven hundred years before the first advent, Isaiah told of his coming, put his peculiar names upon record, foretold some of his most wonderful experiences, and indicated many of the most extraordinary benefits the world would reap because of the unparalleled sufferings of the Redeemer, and through the abounding grace of God.

Micah, one of the contemporaries of Isaiah, predicted with minuteness of detail, not only the place where the Messiah would be born, but other particulars connected with his appearing. Of the promised One, indeed, Moses in the Law, David in the Psalms, and all the prophets spake. The testimony of Jesus was the spirit of prophecy.

When the hour, so many thousands of years before appointed, had come, the promised Saviour appeared. He lived among men until he had seen three and thirty years of human life. How strange that he, who had been so rich, should become, voluntarily, so poor. He accepted the lowest social grade. He assumed, in his own wisdom and beneficence, the state of poverty, and the condition of a servant. He breathed the atmosphere in which we live. He journeyed along high-ways, and bye-ways, upon mountain sides, and around the shores of the sea. He was misunderstood, and misrepresented. He was stoned, sometimes, and scourged. He was tried, and condemned, by the highest court known among the Hebrew people. He suffered even the death of the cross. And yet, thus it was written, in the Old Scriptures, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day. Reaching through all the ancient predictions, and pervading all the experiences, and the work of Christ, there was a beneficent purpose. He came because a perishing world needed his help. He came to seek and to save the lost. He came to make an atonement for the whole world. Dying, he exclaimed: "It is finished." And, now, he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

THE ADVENT IN THE SPIRIT.

During the night next preceding the crucifixion of our Lord, he told his disciples that, though he must inevitably leave them, he would send the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. With the coming of the Holy Spirit a new era would be inaugurated. The gospel of Christ would be preached with power; and would be found to be the power of God, unto salvation, to all them that believe. Christ, in another form, would come unto men. In this new development he was to be all and in all. At the time of the ascension Christ said to his brethren: "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." There is a sense in which we may say that Christ, in laying the foundations of His kingdom, and when giving his commission to the church, staked everything upon the fulfillment of these predictions. Without the coming of Christ through the Holy Spirit, failure would be inevitable.

Christ did come, by the Holy Spirit, in connection with various instrumentalities used by his people. His predictions were fulfilled. Souls were converted. Churches were planted. The kingdom grew. Through the various agencies employed by God's people Christ still comes to men. He knocks at the door of the heart. He speaks to men in a multitude of ways. He speaks in his preached gospel, through his written word, by his providences. He reproves the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.

Does he now reprove of sin? Has he not taught the necessity of righteousness? Has he not shown the importance of a preparation for the judgment to come? How infinite his mercy in coming as he has done and as he now does, to each of us. There is none so poor, so unworthy, so vile, that Jesus does not come to him.

THE ADVENT FOR JUDGMENT.

The scriptures teach us as clearly that Christ will come, another time, to judge the world, as they taught that he would come, as the Messiah, to redeem and to save. Many persons now, probably, do not believe that Christ will come to judge the world as the Scriptures indicate he will. We may assume that many persons, in the former dispensation, did not believe it possible that God would become manifest in the flesh, as he has since appeared in the person of the man Christ Jesus.

The predictions of the sacred penmen, concerning the first advent, have been fulfilled in every particular. The predictions concerning Christ's presence, and power, and achievements have been, and are being, wonderfully fulfilled. Why, then, should we not assume that the unfulfilled predictions of God's word, concerning the coming of Christ to judge the world, on the appointed day, shall surely come to pass.

Enoch, one of the world's grey fathers, has told us that "the Lord cometh with ten thousand of his saints." Job knew that, though his body should be destroyed, he would stand again upon the earth. Christ, and his apostles, frequently, and plainly, taught that: "He shall come in his own glory, and in his fathers, and of the holy angels." "And that he hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness." Has there not been, among all nations, "a fearful looking for of judgment?"

Christ will come in great grandeur, among the clouds of heaven. Daniel, with inspired vision, beheld Christ coming on that great and terrible day, "in the clouds." Christ has said that men shall see him coming "in the clouds of heaven." The angels at Christ's ascension, declared that, as a cloud received him out of their sight, so "this same Jesus," shall "come in like manner." John beheld him on a "great white throne." Before that throne the material universe of created things, shall melt away.

How impressive will be that coming of the Son of man. Every eye shall see him. The reader of these lines will be there. Each of us shall surely behold him, who was pierced, and died, and revived, and rose again.

He will come to judge the whole world. Judgment does not necessarily mean condemnation. He will approve, upon the one hand; and he will condemn, upon the other. His coming will bring the fullness of joy to his people. They will meet the Lord with rapture. To the unsaved that day will bring intensest anguish. In the day of Christ's humiliation proud plarisees covered before his eye and voice. A look from Christ's eye opened the fountain of Peter's tears, and broke his unfaithful heart.

On the great and terrible day of the Lord, the unbelieving, conscience-stricken, shall look upon him, and shall "wail because of him." Of the day and the hour of his coming to judge the world knoweth no man. That momentous day will come as a thief in the night. Practically, it will come to us, when we are called away in death. How loudly, then, comes to us the admonition, to prepare to meet the Lord. By the solemnities of judgment, by the terrors of the Lord, by the preciousness of the soul, and by the greatness of the salvation provided, are we urged to be ready, for coming of the Lord, to judge the world.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Annual Meeting of the General Missionary Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States has recently been held in New York. Bishop Simpson presided. Representatives from almost all parts of the work were present. The receipts of the Society for the year ending October 31, 1879, were \$551,859. There was an increase of \$494 over the previous year. The debt of the Society is now \$63,000. The appropriations for the ensuing year amount to \$678,000. The receipts, in the Western States, are considerably in excess of previous years, indicating an improvement in the times, in that part of the country. The receipts in the Eastern States have not advanced during the past year. The committee hopes for increased contributions to its treasury during the ensuing year; and its appropriations, therefore, for the coming year are larger than ever before.

If any subscriber receives his paper, improperly addressed, we will be obliged if he will inform us of the error, and at the same time give us the address to which the paper is now sent, and the address to which it should be mailed.

YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE.

A Young Ladies' Institute, holding some kind of a connection with the Brunswick Street Methodist congregation, in this city, has recently been organized. An Olio, in which leading members of the Institute took part, was given, in the Lecture-room of the Church, on Monday evening last. A very attractive programme was carried out. To us who were not initiated the occasion appeared to have a somewhat hieroglyphical character. We are not certain that we interpreted aright all that we were permitted to see, and hear, during the progress of the Olio. In the announcement of the several parts of the programme no names were introduced to the audience. A portion of the young men present seemed to be peculiarly excited. To them the very head and front of the Olio looked black, and, yet, at the same time, attractive and promising. The literary heavens appeared to be full of threatening clouds, and yet here and there a Starr shone out. At one time, when the storm seemed about to break, a portion of the audience looked as if they had "no friendly Mackintosh" to afford protection and relief. By no means, amongst the least of the attractions of that brilliant occasion, was the clear-toned and rich ringing of a couple of Bells. Some admirable readings, and singing, and well-rendered performances on the piano and the organ contributed to the success of the evening.

The Rev. Mr. Dunn will lecture, under the auspices of the Young Men's Institute, on Monday evening next.

Y. M. C. A.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Halifax, has issued its Prospectus for the coming winter, 1879-1880.

The first entertainment of the season will be a Literary and Musical Prelude, to be given on Tuesday evening, November 25th, at 8 o'clock, in the Association Hall.

On Tuesday, December 9th, a Lecture will be delivered by Rev. C. B. Pitblado. On Tuesday, January 8, Rev. A. J. Townsend will lecture.

On Tuesday, January 27th, there will be a Discussion.

On Tuesday, February 10th, James De-Mill, Esq., will lecture.

On Tuesday, February 24th, a Discussion.

On Tuesday, March 9th, Charles Macdonald, Esq., will lecture.

Tuesday, March 23rd. Literary and Musical Postlude.

Season Tickets for the Course, \$1.00. Single Tickets for each evening, .20.

PERSONALS.

THOMAS W. WOOD, Esq., of Richibucto, N. B., left that place, last week, to make his home with some of his relatives now living in Wilbraham, Massachusetts. Mr. Wood has resided during nearly sixty years in Richibucto. During all that period he has been identified with educational work. For many years he had charge of the Grammar School of the county of Kent. Latterly, for about twenty years, he was the Inspector of Schools for several of the counties of New Brunswick.

From the introduction of Methodism into that part of the country where Mr. Wood resided, until now, he has been a devoted adherent of our cause. He entered loyally into all our plans. He always contributed liberally to the sustentation of our work. Probably no man, during the last half century, was better known in the section of country where he resided, than he; and none was more generally respected. He has well-nigh filled up the measure of four-score years. And we earnestly hope that, in his coming experience, he will find that the Master has "kept the best wine until the last."

Rev. Mr. Stafford, pastor of the Dominion Church, Ottawa, has been invited to the pastorate of the Dorchester Street Church, Montreal, for next year; and has accepted the invitation.

Rev. Mr. Pentreath, Rector of St. George's Church, Moncton, and one of the Editors of the Church Guardian, favored our office with a call, on Wednesday last.

The Rev. William Taylor, D.D., of California, of India, of South America, and of many other parts, is to preach on Sunday next in Halifax, at Brunswick Street Church in the morning and at Grafton Street Church in the evening.

Occasionally a subscriber to the WESLEYAN fails to receive his paper, from the fact that the address, which is pasted on the paper, or on the wrapper, gets rubbed off in the mail. We will be obliged if every subscriber who, at any time, fails to receive his paper, will immediately notify us of that fact, by Post Card, giving, carefully written out, the name and Post Office to which the paper is addressed. On receipt of such Post Card we will forward the missing number.

Full of years and good works, Dr. Lovick Pierce passed away November 10th, at Augusta, Georgia. He was born in the year the first General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church met (1784), and leaves a son who is a gray-haired bishop in the Southern Methodist Church.

We learn from The Guardian that—The annual meeting of the General Conference Sunday School Board was held on Friday, the 7th inst., at the village of Waterdown. Most of the members, clerical and lay, were present. The Rev. Dr. Potts occupied the chair. The review of the year's work was very encouraging, showing increased interest and energy in Sunday-school work. Many new schools have been helped and many new schools are reported as established. Arrangements were made for the still more efficient carrying out of the objects of the Board, especially the aiding of poor schools in missionary and frontier districts. In connection with the Board meeting a very successful Sunday-school Convention, lasting two days, was held, in which, Revs. J. Wakefield, A. Andrews, Dr. Potts, S. J. Hunter, G. Brown, L. Gaetz, W. H. Withrow; and Messrs. R. Wilkes, Warring Kennedy and J. Griffin, Esqs., took part.

Rev. W. Galbraith writes to "The Guardian" under date of Kingston, November 8th, as follows:—Rev. J. E. Warden died at his residence, Amherst Island, about noon, on the 6th inst. During the past six or eight months his health has been quite feeble. Since Conference, he has been able to preach very little. A severe cold developed into consumption, which did its fatal work speedily. He died in great peace. Revs. Messrs. Breden, Crozier, and myself attended the funeral on the Island yesterday.

We refer our readers to the new advertisement on our eight page concerning the Male Academy at Sackville.

REMEMBER—Our ministers are requested to bring under the notice of our congregations the fact, that new subscribers to the WESLEYAN, will get the paper free till 1881 for TWO DOLLARS. We hope every circuit will be thoroughly canvassed. Will all our ministers please carefully consider the supplement sent to them last week?

HARPER'S MAGAZINE FOR DECEMBER, 1879.

Harper's Magazine for December is a very beautiful and interesting number. It opens with an entertaining article entitled, "The Fortunes of the Bonapartes"—the writer of which prefers to remain anonymous—illustrated with sixteen fine portraits of the most prominent members of the Bonaparte family. "Sea Drift from a New England Port," by Lizzie W. Champney, illustrated by Howard Pyle, contains some very novel and curious information respecting New London society a hundred years ago. Miss J. L. Clond continues her picturesque description of Irish scenery and character in the Connemara Hills, accompanied by some quaint pencil sketches. Ernest Ingersoll contributes a paper on Atlanta, Georgia, with some excellent pictures.

"The Palestine of To-Day," by Dr. J. F. Hurst, is illustrated with engravings from Harper's new edition of Dr. Thomson's "The Land and the Book." Miss F. E. Fryatt describes the "New York Cooking School," Miss Curtis contributing six beautiful illustrations. "Blossoms" is the title of an exquisite little poem by Philip O. Sullivan, illustrated by Miss M. R. Oakey. The ballad of Whittington—a fac-simile of the British M. S.—is given, with five illustrations by Abbey. Longfellow contributes a poem of curious interest, the subject of which is an iron pen (presented to the poet by a lady in Maine) made from a fetter of Bonivard, the prisoner of Chillon—the handle of wood from the frigate Constitution, and bound with a circle of gold, inset with three precious stones from Siberia, Ceylon and Maine.

James T. Fields contributes a charming poem, entitled "A New and True Ghost Story." In fiction, besides the three great serial novels by Black, Blackmore, and Miss Mulock, there is a very strong short story by Rose Terry Cooke.

Without reference to the contents of the Editor's Easy Chair, the criticisms of new books, or the humors of the Drawer, we may safely pronounce this December number of Harper the most varied as well as the most beautiful number of the year.

A PAMPHLET, entitled, "Thoughts and Conclusions of a man of years concerning Churches and Church Connection," by Rev. JOHN CARROLL, D. D., has come to our table. The topics discussed in this work are worthy of consideration by those who are interested in the work of the churches. Dr. Carroll is a thoughtful writer, and has presented his conclusions in a concise and readable form.

The Preacher and Homiletic Monthly for November is well filled with suggestive matter of great interest to preachers. We have sermons and sketches on great practical subjects by such preachers as Dr. A. P. Peabody, Dr. Samuel A. Ort, Dr. S. V. Leech, Rev. George F. Pentecost, Dr. John Hall, Dr. J. M. Manning, Dr. E. A. Washburn, Dr. Noah Schenck, Dr. William M. Taylor, and others. This Magazine is fresh and stimulating to thought, and cannot but be of great value to young preachers.

Subscriptions for this Monthly are received at our Book Room. Price \$2.50 per annum. To ministers \$2.00. Cash strictly in advance.

POSTAL CARDS.

STANLEY, N.B., Nov. 17. We have just concluded a series of special services here. Through the blessing of God a few have been added to the church, and we are looking for more.

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