

WESLEYAN

The only Methodist Paper published in the Maritime Provinces.

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Having a large and increasing circulation in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Bermuda, it is an ADVERTISING MEDIUM IT HAS NO EQUAL in these Provinces.

Rev. S. ROSE, Methodist Book Room Toronto, is Agent for this paper.

All Wesleyan Ministers are Agents.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1876.

SUBSCRIBERS wishing to change their address for the "Wesleyan," will please send their old, as well as new address, plainly and correctly written, so as to save time and trouble.

Some Editorial matter is held over to make way for our welcome correspondence.

THE GOOD TIME COMING.

It is easy, perhaps natural, to indulge in a little murmuring. We lose patience with the hum-drum movements of society in these Lower Provinces. Our neighbours are so active, so progressive, and we so conservative and unenterprising. But, dear heart, can you not see the signs of the times—the commercial signs? Look at New Brunswick; what is it preparing for? With its Intercolonial Railway by the North, its Central Railway by the St. John River, its broad connections by sea and land with other countries. Nova Scotia with its railway pulses throbbing already through South and West, and now opening arteries of travel to the eastward also. Prince Edward Island all astir with the ambition of free, ardent minds, coming up abreast of the swiftest in the race. What does all this betoken? The West will shortly empty itself through the East. This is to be the royal highway of business—these to be the head and eyes of a vast national body, looking out upon the sea and doing much of the nations thinking. All cannot see this. Strangers visiting us after intervals of years are surprised at our growth, and do not understand what there is to justify our railway building mania. The truth is, we are working by instinct, more correctly, by Providence. The energy of new life is in our bones and nerves. We are paving the way for a generation who will run the race of the swiftfooted and carry the burden of giants. Twenty years hence will see marvels of prosperity in these Provinces, so long a byword for laziness and unthriftiness. Let us have faith in our country, and like all true seers, bend our own energies to the task of helping to fulfil our prophecies.

DEATH OF A YOUNG MINISTER.—Rev. Thomas Harris, St. John's, Newfoundland, wrote us a hurried line by the last mail steamer, from which we quote: "I regret to say that Bro. Lader continues very delicate. Bro. Dixon, soon after arriving on his new mission in Green Bay, was stricken down by brain fever, and was in a very precarious state. Bro. Lader, at a few days' notice, proceeded to his help on Monday. We were very anxious for him, and pray for him so, valuably by his spare time. I will mail Rev. J. Bowler, on his way to the Green Bay, and I will mail you the same."

Dr. Punshon's resolution.—That lay representatives shall be admitted into and take part in the proceedings of the Conference during the time when such matters shall be considered and decided as hereinafter declared to be within the province of ministers and laymen acting jointly; but that the details of the scheme be referred to the disputation when the laymen are subsequently appointed by this Conference to present a report to the Conference for final settlement.

THE ANnapolis COUNTY UNION SUNDAY School Convention will be held at Melborn Square, Wilmot, on Tuesday, September 5th, commencing at 10 a.m. A large attendance of Sunday School workers is requested.

J. E. ARMSTRONG, Sec'y.

THE EXECUTIVE BOOK COMMITTEE will meet at the Book Room at the close of the Financial meeting of the Halifax District.

The Rev. Annie Oliver is to occupy for the pulpit of the First Place Methodist Church, in Brooklyn. She had from a Boston Theological Seminary and has preached in the City of New York.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.—Prince Edward Island elections last week gave the finishing stroke to the sectarian school system in the Dominion. It now appears that wherever the question is left to the people, Free Schools are to be the prevailing system. The Island was the last stand of sectarian schools; the battle had been fought in every other Province. It will now remain for those who come into power there, to make a right, wise, faithful, judicious use of their authority. The majority of Free school members returned is not very large.

On the day before the P. E. Island elections occurred, the Halifax School Board adopted a resolution which gives Roman Catholic members of that Board the right of nominating teachers for the Roman Catholic schools of the city, and confers similar powers on those members not Roman Catholic in regard to the other schools. This is virtually a sectarian school system under direction of a nominal Free School Board. Men learned in the law give it as a decided opinion that the Board had no authority to reach such a conclusion, and has gone beyond its constitution.

We would very much prefer, if this method is to continue, to have a sectarian system out and out. As it is we have Roman Catholic schools supported by the taxes of our citizens at a cost altogether out of proportion to the numbers of Roman Catholics as compared with the entire population. A clause in the resolution reserved the right of the Board to the control of all teachers after their appointment—a resolution worth its weight in paper and ink.

A GREAT DEBATE IN THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE, as will be seen by our latest English letter, was being continued on Lay Representation. That Dr. Punshon and Mr. Arthur should favor this movement with all their eloquence and the prestige of their great names, was not to be wondered at. That Mr. Pope took different ground need not surprise any one. His studies and habits of thought lead him to attach the highest importance to the ministerial office, and he would doubtless maintain the position so tenaciously held by Dr. Bunting and others as relates to the Conferential Body. But we would do him injustice to judge until his arguments are made public. He is an honest, fearless, intelligent man, and may reasonably claim the highest respect. We quite concur in the opinion of our English correspondent as regards the fate of this principal measure introduced in modern times to the discussions of the British Conference.

By later papers we have the decision of the English Conference on Lay Representation. The speeches reported in the Watchman on this subject are remarkably able, those of Mr. Pope and Dr. Osborne in opposition, and of Dr. Punshon in favor of his own motion being expressions destined to make a part of our Methodist history. Dr. Punshon's is to-day the moulding mind of Methodism. Profiting by his transatlantic experience, he ardently embraces the interests of the laity, and his brethren, almost unanimously accord to him respect and sympathy. Here is the result of the discussion:—

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est, fighting repeated battles with the natives, and telegraphing ever and anon the results of his travels. We wonder if he knows what God is using him for? That vast, too-long neglected country, must be opened up, its numerous tribes brought within reach of the Gospel, its lakes and rivers penetrated by the fleets of the nations. The enterprise must not, cannot rest. If missionaries like Livingstone are not in the way of going thither, ambitious newspaper men can be employed for the purpose. God will send by whom he will send.

THE CENTRAL BOARD OF THE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY makes an urgent appeal through the Districts for financial aid. The medium is a good one. Every minister and official layman ought thus to be influenced in favor of this object.

An effort is made to establish a DOMINION LAW SOCIETY, to meet annually or bi-annually, for the discussion and consideration of questions affecting the advancement and culture, and to raise the status of the legal profession. A very wise measure.

DISTINGUISHED CLERGYMEN from abroad have been occupying St. John pulpits. Rev. Mr. Sommerville, the travelling Evangelist; Dr. Hepworth of New York; Rev. John Nichols of Montreal, and Rev. R. A. McFarlane of Ireland, have been reported in the Telegraph as preaching masterly sermons to large and delighted audiences.

THE election of officers of Departments in the British Conference, makes Rev. J. Kilner a Secretary at the Mission House; Rev. A. McAulay, Secretary of Home Missions; Rev. J. Hartley, Governor of Woodhouse Grove; Rev. H. J. Pope, Secretary of the Chapel Committee. Those English brethren, whatever may be thought of the propriety of setting Ministers apart to departmental work, certainly distribute their very best talent to the management of their secular affairs.

The following telegram reached us on Wednesday evening from Bridgetown:—"Father Davies is on the Border Land. No hope of his recovery, and his death is expected every hour. W. H. HARTZ.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE THIS WEEK well deserves attention. Our faithful English contributor is determined to keep us abreast of affairs in the English Conference—this deeply interesting session. St. John and New Brunswick are well represented by "N. B.," to whom also we extend the thanks of our readers.

A NOVA SCOTIAN ABROAD.—The Edinburgh Scotsman of the 2nd inst. publishes in a list of about one hundred graduates, the name of Mr. Charles A. Coleman, son of Mr. W. J. Coleman, of this city, who has passed a very creditable examination in the Edinburgh Medical University, after six years' study. Dr. Coleman has since been appointed Resident Medical Officer of the "Craig Lockhart" Hospital, Edinburgh, an institution capable of accommodating over a thousand patients.—Halifax Chronicle.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND MINUTES (the matter of which only reached us last mail) will be out next week.

On Thursday, August 17th, at the Methodist Church, Annapolis Royal, by the father of the bride, assisted by Rev. J. L. Spongale, Rev. Hibert B. Baker, A. B., of Havelock, N. B., to Laura E., second daughter of Rev. R. Smith.

A very suggestive communication on autumnal Conferences came in too late. It will appear next week.

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OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

FURTHER CONFERENCE NOTES.

The routine business in the early portion of the Conference takes up much time, and does not afford much material for the notes of a correspondent. The interest of the public is centered in the great meetings which are held in various parts of the town, and are addressed by the foremost men and most effective speakers.

THE CHILDREN'S HOME and the work accomplished by Mr. Bowman Stephenson and his helpers, received fitting recognition and substantial encouragement at a noble meeting held in the Mechanic's Hall. An honored minister of the English Church pleaded earnestly for the abandoned and degraded children for whom Mr. Stephenson cares. The Methodist Church is taking this great enterprise more and more lovingly under its patronage, providing for its largely increasing necessities, and praying for its success.

THE CONFERENCE SABBATH will long be remembered by the good people of the town of Nottingham. The Ex-President, after all the fatigues of his busy and memorable year, was enabled to preach with remarkable vigor and power. The President in his official sermon, earnestly proclaimed the truths of the Gospel, and it was felt that two noble examples had been exhibited, as to the truths to be preached, and the way in which it is desirable to present them, which will not be without great practical value to the throng of preachers which attended those blessed services.

THE AFTERNOON SERVICE was not official, or conferential. It was in St. Mary's, the great parish church of this town. The preacher was Canon Morse, an evangelical clergyman, and a man of eminently liberal sentiments. He invited the Conference to attend, but this was out of the question, yet it was left to individuals to do as they liked. A goodly number went to hear the sermon, full of earnest thought, pleading for Christian union, and closer fellowship among all who hold the alone headship of the Lord Jesus Christ. It may not be uninteresting to state that two of our leading ministers are entertained at the residence of the Canon, and on Sabbath several of the brethren accepted his invitation to tea. It is pleasant to see indications of liberality in the midst of many proofs of arrogance and churchy pride on the part of the Establishment.

A NONCONFORMIST DEPUTATION consisting of eight or ten ministers, Congregationalists, Baptists and Methodists of other sections, came in on Monday last with an address, and speeches full of welcome and good wishes. It was a pleasant episode. The President made an admirable selection when he called upon Benjamin Gregory and E. B. Jenkins to reply on behalf of the Conference. Their addresses were specially felicitous, catching at the prominent points in the remarks made by our visitors, and weaving into their own substance, many noble utterances on behalf of the common truth and the liberty which Christ has granted to us as Nonconformists in these latter days. Our Wesleyan orators suffered not in the least, by comparison with our visiting brethren. Another distinguished visitor has appeared in our midst,

THE REV. DR. CLARK representing I believe, the Methodist Protestant Church of the United States, but upon this point, I am not at all clear, and great numbers in the Conference shared my perplexity. Yet this did not abate our sympathy, or cool the warmth of his reception. He was a Methodist, and came full of reverent love for the old stock at home, and sanguine as to the present power and future of the mighty Methodist Churches abroad. His speech was a marvel of scholarly exactness and precision. In condensed, carefully selected expressions, he pleaded before us briefly the story of emancipation, and the part his Church sustained in the struggle. For once I have seen the Conference lovingly tolerant of a written speech, deliberately read and emphasized. The Doctor made a good impression, did not occupy too much time, and Dr. Rigg in reply, said some kindly things, although he could not promise in the name of the Conference a deputation to visit the Body so ably represented by Dr. Clark.

A PROLONGED CONFERENCE is now inevitable. The great discussion upon Lay Representation is yet to take place. The business is in arrears, and many special subjects press for review and settlement.

THE BROTHERS Albrighton and Brewster are present and are full of kindly reminiscences of their work, and former companions in your part of the Dominion. "B." Aug. 2, 1876.

FROM ENGLAND.

THIRD CONFERENCE LETTER. The ordination service was this year invested with great interest as the

whole of the candidates were gathered in one chapel, and ordained together. The charge was delivered by the Ex-President, the Rev. Gervase Smith, M. A., and right worthily did he perform this, the closing act of his important and busy year of office. In view of recent events, and sundry friendly overtures on the part of the Establishment, it was a noble defence of Methodist orders and preaching, firm in tone and strong in argument.

THE MAYOR'S CONVERSATIONS was another of the pleasant gatherings of this Nottingham Conference. His Worship, on the gathering of the Stationing Committee, attended to extend a welcome to the brethren, and in due course, the whole of the Conference, with the families who were entertaining the ministers, were invited to an assembly at the Mechanic's Hall. It was a time for promenade, introductions, short complimentary speeches, and light refreshments. The Conference was in holiday garb and spirit for a few hours. The next morning it had to return in earnest to its routine work.

LAY REPRESENTATION was justly regarded as the great testing question of the Conference. This was evidenced by the numbers present thronging over the whole of the floor of the chapel, and filling two or three rows in the spacious gallery. The way for discussion was not clear until voluminous documents and legal opinions had been read. Some opposition was raised to this, as the papers were in our hands, but the point was yielded, and the full case was heard.

THE OPENING SPEECH was made by Dr. Punshon, reviewing the history of the movement, and moving in strong earnest words the adoption of the third resolution of the Mixed Committee, which affirms the principle of Lay Representation. The motion was seconded by E. J. Robinson, who has of late been prominent in the discussion, and speaks with energy and clearness. He made some strong points, but was evidently reserving himself for a further stage of the business.

A NOVEL FEATURE was now presented. Mr. Pope who is still absent from indisposition, sent an ably written paper, clear and precise in its style, elaborate in its argumentation but diametrically opposed to the plan of the Mixed Committee. It was an able putting of one side of the case. Then followed the reading of an address, the earnest, eloquent and much beloved William Arthur, the writer of the paper, standing silently by whilst T. Bowman Stephenson read the carefully prepared, historically full, and as we are persuaded, unanswerable arguments in favor of granting to our laymen the privilege of legislating with us in relation to things temporal. Then the debate began in good earnest, and the time would fall me to relate with any measure of accuracy the names and opinions of the various speakers. An amendment was proposed which urged that more time be given, and that the principle involved in the resolutions of the Mixed Committee, be referred for full discussion to the brethren assembled.

IN THE DISTRICT MEETINGS Many speeches of marked ability were delivered, and alas! many others prosy and irrelevant, dry in detail and long of wind, taxing sorely the patience of the Conference, and calling forth all the admirable adroitness of the President to secure for them, a hearing through to the end. It was interesting to watch the unbroken stillness of the audience when a man arose who had something strong and apposite to say, and who took care to say it, and compare the feelings expressed when men arose to talk for the purpose of exhibiting some little pet theory and to occupy the time. Nevertheless a full and fair opportunity has been given for both sides to be heard, and up to the present there has been no lack of speakers, but embarrassment as to who shall next occupy the floor. Some great men are yet to be heard, and at the closing of this letter there is no indication when the

GREAT DEBATE will close, and the final vote be taken. My impression is that a majority of the Conference will affirm the grand principle of Lay Representation, but that the details will be submitted to a large committee, and another year elapse before the scheme is brought into operation. The second draft of stations is not out, and the whole business of the Conference is in heavy arrears. "B." August 7, 1876.

Twenty years ago a Liverpool steam-packet company wished to buy land of a woman. She sold it cheap, but got a clause in the agreement that during her whole life she and a companion might at any time travel free in the company's vessels. The day after the bargain she sold her furniture, let her house, and went on board the first outward-bound vessel. Since then she has always lived on some ship of the company, accompanied by a woman companion, for whom she advertises, and whose passage-money she pays. She has made over \$10,000 in

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