

# The Wesleyan

Rev. A. W. NICOLSON,  
Editor and Publisher.

Published under the direction of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

\$2 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE  
Postage Prepaid.

VOL. XXIX

HALIFAX N.S., JUNE 2, 1877.

NO. 22

**WESLEYAN BOOK ROOM,**  
125 GRANVILLE STREET,  
HALIFAX, N.S.

DEPOSITORY FOR  
**ALL METHODIST PUBLICATIONS**  
AND SALES-ROOM FOR  
General Literature, Stationery, Blank Book  
AND SCHOOL BOOKS.

Sabbath Schools, Clergymen and Students  
purchasing in quantities have  
**A SPECIAL DISCOUNT**

**OUR ENGLISH LETTER.**

THE MAY MEETINGS.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—The May meetings constitute a somewhat serious difficulty in the ordinary routine of duty which is undertaken by your correspondent. There are so many of them, beginning in April, and barely finishing in the leafy month of June, they are held in so many places, and for the furtherance of such a variety of religious and philanthropic enterprises, and they are all so fully reported in the newspapers, that it is not a little presumptuous even to attempt anything in the form of a review or comment.

IN WESLEYAN METHODISM  
alone we have annual services, sermons, or great anniversary gatherings, on behalf of Education, Home and Foreign Missions, Lay Agency in the Metropolitan, the Metropolitan Chapel Building Fund, the Mission to Seamen, and various others; which are of considerable local importance. I intend only to revert to two which I was privileged to attend, since the date of my last letter.

THE PRESIDENT'S SERMON  
in Centenary Hall, was one of great power, and remarkable appositeness to the solemn events of the time. The proclamation of war had just been made public, and the sermon seemed to be an inspiration of wisdom and practical experience eminently suited for the day, full of confidence in the efficacy of prayer for all kings and rulers; and of faith in the boundless grace and power of the Gospel to save all men and bring them to a knowledge of the truth. The text was the first six verses of the second chapter of the 1st Epistle to Timothy. If your readers will carefully study this passage, they will be struck with its fitness for the purpose to which it was applied by our worthy President.

THE EXETER HALL MEETING  
was equal to any that has been held for many years. There was the same hurrying throng, pressing in at an early hour, and filling the entire space of the fine hall. The recent custom of singing hymns and having a prayer meeting to occupy the time was duly observed, and at a quarter to eleven loud cheers greeted the chairman and long line of distinguished ministers and laymen who filed in, and took possession of the front seats upon the platform.

THE REPORT FOR 1876-7  
drew attention to the fact of a diminished missionary income, and the urgent necessity for a great and immediate increase in the ordinary receipts of the society, if its supporters will avoid painful retrenchment in its present operations and inability to respond to calls for reinforcement and extension. The reasons assigned for the present decrease are the heavy financial embarrassment of the past year which has been felt by those from whom our Society has been accustomed to receive largely, and also a diminution in the amount of legacies received during the year. The meeting did not appear to be much distressed at the tidings of a falling off in the income, and it was a little remarkable that not one of the speakers referred to the matter. The check upon the receipts of the society is not a very serious one, and we trust it is only temporary, but yet it has not been felt for many years, and was a decidedly new sensation to some of the audience. The chairman

S. D. WADDY, ESQ., M. P., Q. C.  
proved himself equal to the occasion and worthy of the honour conferred upon him. His distinguished father has been recently taken to his eternal rest, his voice had often been heard pleading eloquently on behalf of missions, and the speech of the son appeared full of the same spirit. It was one

of the speeches of the the day carrying the audience at a very early stage of the meeting to a high pitch of enthusiasm, and giving an admirable tone to the whole of the meeting.

THE OTHER SPEAKERS  
were men of known ability and power. They all spoke well and to the point, but they were nearly all men from one quarter, and in this anniversary India and China received ample justice. The work in Africa and the southern world was not enlarged upon, but on the whole it was a grand and inspiring meeting. The speakers were entirely of our own Church, as some who were invited from other communions, were unable to attend. Turning from all other agencies of love and grace, before I close I must refer to

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR  
for hostile troops have met, lives have been sacrificed, prisoners taken, and property devastated. The advantages, such as they are must be divided, for there have been trifling victories on both sides. But the Russians are advancing steadily and in tremendous force. The Danube has not been crossed, and there the first terrible struggle will soon be witnessed.

THE ROUMANIAN REVOLT  
against its old Turkish rulers is really in favor of Russia, for it turns all that territory into a position of friendliness if not of actual fraternity and assistance.

MR. GLADSTONE'S RESOLUTIONS  
which are condemnatory of Turkey, and insist upon England demanding reform at the hands of the Porte, seem to be rather late in order of time. They are being discussed in Parliament with unabated vigor and bitterness night after night. They cannot secure a triumph for the Liberal party, but they are having a most decided effect in keeping the Government in check, and preventing further expressions of sympathy with Turkey, and with Russia. "B."

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, LONDON.

DR. PUNSHON'S SERMON.

The Rev. Dr. Punshon preached the annual sermon on behalf of the above society in Westminster Chapel (the Rev. Samuel Martin's), on the evening of Sunday, the 30th ult. The large building was crowded in every part. The discourse was based on the 25th verse of the 1st chapter of the Epistle to James: "The perfect law of liberty." The Bible, he said, was the one manual of duty for those who preached and those who heard. And while on the one hand it bound the minister to faithfulness under the spell of a tremendous anathema, on the other it imposed on the listener obligations which they could not violate without sin. His aim would be to impress his hearers with the fact of the authority, the sufficiency, and the freedom of this perfect law. The law then was not a matter of opinion, amenable to human caprice, to be obeyed or ignored with equal safety at the bidding of an arbitrary will. It was a supreme authoritative obligation issued by one who had a right to speak, claiming immediate obedience and enforced by sanctions which it were madness to disregard. Herein the teaching of Christ distinguished itself from that of all others. There was no faltering in his voice; no hesitating consciousness of partial or delegated power. He did not argue—He pronounced. He did not suggest—He commanded. His words were veiled in no confusion and prefaced by no apology. It was not merely the Divine Teacher, but the Divinity Himself who spoke; and in like manner the Word of God demanded not cavil, but credence; not a haughty disdain, but the humble submissiveness of the heart and life. True, they had a right to inquire into its credentials, and it would not shrink from the scrutiny. Its inspiration was established by incontrovertible evidence. Even concessions were made in its be-

half by unprejudiced and candid foes, and it was fenced round, as it were, by a rampart of impregnable testimony, which no opposing artillery could shatter, and at whose base the flood, swollen with the enmity of ages, might dash its frantic waters in vain. And thus authenticated it appealed to the intellect, the imagination, the heart of man. was the province of the intellect to grasp its mysteries, to elucidate its hidden meanings, and to believe their connection and harmony. It was the province of the imagination to acknowledge the supremacy, and with scrupulous carefulness obey the behests of the imperial will; and it was the province of the heart, with loyal and loving affection, to apply its truths and reduce them into practice in daily life—bowing before it as, august and stately, it announced itself as Divine. If there was such a law, so authoritative, so sufficient, so free, and if that law was the word which by the Gospel was preached unto them, then there was a solemn obligation resting on them to take heed how they heard. Those who fulfilled it rightly would not be forgetful hearers, to whom the truth came merely as something which the minister was paid for uttering, nor would they be hearers with itching ears looking only for intellectual pleasure, and repaid for their languid attention by a display of philosophy, by lucid arguments, or an occasional outburst of passionate eloquence, drowsy if the preacher was dull, and absorbed if the preacher was earnest, not in his subject, but in some passing thought of their own, and as they retired from the sanctuary, eager in their discussion of the last new fashion or scandal; and least of all would they be irreverent hearers who looked upon the whole thing as simply a public pastime for an idle hour, or an institution which had a sort of traditional excellence about it, which it was as well on the whole to maintain. Those hours, like all others, must be reckoned for at the judgment day, and it would ill bide them if they were forgetful, or careless or frivolous hearers. But "whosoever looketh" into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, not being a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the Word, this man shall be blessed in his deed." The preacher then referred to the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society, one of the noblest institutions of our times, in its advantages, its philanthropic design, and the grandeur of its results. It was born in troublous times.

It followed close upon the might upheaval of all things venerable and sacred that distinguished the period of the first French Revolution, and through the vicissitudes of years it had survived to a hale and vigorous manhood, outliving all opposition, increasing the stock of national charity, and preserving consistently its one original aim to give the whole word the Bible. The preacher gave some striking instances which had fallen under his own notice, illustrative of the power of the Word of God on the heart of man by diligent study of it without the aid of expositors or human ministrations of any kind. In all parallels of latitude, in all regions of the earth it would grow, and if scattered broadcast and with liberal hands there would be a springing up and bursting of the blade, and a world-wide and magnificent harvest fit for the sickle of the angels. We lived in perilous times. We were entering upon a condition of things of which no prophet could prophecy the end. The least changeable things of the world were being shaken on purpose that the things which cannot be shaken might remain. He rejoiced that the Society had arranged to follow the combatants in the forthcoming struggle with the Word of God, and twenty thousand copies of the Scriptures had been sold to the Russian army in Bessarabia. Dr. Punshon concluded by eloquently enforcing the claims of the Society.

**N. B. AND P. E. I. CONFERENCE.**

**PLAN OF PUBLIC SERVICES**  
During the Conference held in the Methodist Church Fredericton commencing June the 27th, 1877.

PLACE.	DATE.	BY WHOM CONDUCTED.	TIME OF SERVICE.
Fredericton.	Wed. 27th	Rev. James Duke	8 p.m.
Ditto	Thurs. 28th	Rev. William Penna	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Conference Missionary Meeting	7.30 p.m.
Ditto	Friday 29th	Rev. Benjamin Chapell	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Conference Educational Meeting	7.30 p.m.
Ditto	Saturday 30	Rev. Edward Bell	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	Sun. July 1	Rev. John F. Betts	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	President of Conference	11 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. Hy. Daniel Conference Love Feast	3 p.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. D. D. Currie	6.30 p.m.
Marysville	" "	Rev. John Lathern	11 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. Howard Sprague	6.30 p.m.
Gibson	" "	Rev. John S. Phinney	11 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. S. T. Teed	6.30 p.m.
Robinson	" "	Rev. C. H. Hamilton	3 p.m.
Lincoln	" "	Rev. William Tweedy	11 a.m.
Kingsclear	" "	Rev. F. W. Harrison	10 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. R. S. Crisp	6.30 p.m.
Nashwaak	" "	Rev. Joseph Sellar	11 a.m.
Nashwaakis	" "	Rev. Levi S. Johnson	3 p.m.
Fredericton	Monday 2nd	Rev. W. Maggs	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Ordination Service	7.30 p.m.
Ditto	Tuesday 3rd	Rev. Charles Comben	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Sabbath School Meeting	7.30 p.m.
Ditto	Wednes. 4th	Rev. H. R. Baker	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. W. W. Brewer	8 p.m.
Ditto	Thursday 5th	Rev. A. R. B. Shewsbury	6.30 a.m.
Ditto	" "	Rev. E. Evans	8 p.m.

H. McKEOWN, Superintendent.

The following arrangements have been made to supply the Evangelical Pulpits of the City on the Conference Sabbath, July 1st, by the request of the several Pastors.

Presbyterian Church	Rev. Joseph Hart	11 a.m.
" "	Professor Burwash	6.30 p.m.
C. Baptist	Rev. Samuel Ackman	11 a.m.
" "	Rev. John Prince	6.30 a.m.
F. Baptist	Rev. William Dobson	11 a.m.
" "	Rev. James Crisp	6.30 p.m.

**NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.**

Ministers of the Nova Scotia Conference, who do not intend being present at its Sessions in Yarmouth, will confer a favor by notifying me by Post Card.

Provision will be made for the accommodation of Ministers of other Conferences, who intend being with us, if they will communicate with Brother READ or

JOHN M. PIKE,  
Yarmouth, N.S.

**PLAN OF APPOINTMENTS.**

WEDNESDAY JUNE 20, 1877.

Providence Church 7 1/2 p.m.	Praise Meeting	Rev. G. O. Huestis
Wesley Ditto 7 1/2 p.m.	" "	Rev. Ingham Sutcliffe

THURSDAY 21.

Providence 6 1/2 a.m.	Rev. Richey Bird
" 9 a.m.	Opening Conference
" 12 to 1 p.m.	Conference Prayer Meeting
" 7 1/2 p.m.	Missionary Anniversary

SPEAKERS:—Revs. J. McMurray, J. Cassidy, Job Shenton, J. A. Rogers, W. H. Heartz.

Pembroke 7 1/2 p.m. Rev. William Ainley

FRIDAY 22

Providence 6 1/2 a.m.	Rev. E. R. Brunyate
Wesley 6 1/2 a.m.	Rev. W. Penny
" 7 1/2 p.m.	Educational Society Anniversary

SPEAKERS:—Rev. C. Jost, A.M. Rev. Ralph Brecken, A.M.

SATURDAY 23

Providence 6 1/2 a.m.	Rev. John Craig
" 7 1/2 p.m.	Meeting for Promotion of Holiness
Wesley 7 1/2 p.m.	Rev. J. S. Addy
" "	Rev. J. G. Hemigar

SUNDAY 24

Providence 6 1/2 a.m.	Rev. D. W. Johnson, A.B.
" 10 1/2 a.m.	President of the Conference
" 8 p.m.	Conference Love Feast
" 7 p.m.	Rev. A. W. Nicolson, followed by Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
Wesley 6 1/2 p.m.	Rev. William Purvis
" 10 1/2 a.m.	Rev. R. Brecken, A.M.
" 8 p.m.	Love Feast
" 7 p.m.	Rev. W. H. Heartz, followed by the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
Pembroke 2 1/2 p.m.	Rev. J. A. Rogers
Arcadia 10 1/2 a.m.	Rev. Arthur Hockin
Brooklyn 3 p.m.	Rev. Thomas Rogers, A.M.
Plymouth	Rev. Eben E. England
Darling's Lake 10 1/2 a.m.	Rev. Jesse B. Giles
Hebron 7 p.m.	Rev. Caleb Parker

MONDAY 25

Providence 6 1/2 a.m.	Rev. C. W. Swallow, A.B.
" 7 1/2 p.m.	Ordination Service
Wesley 7 1/2 p.m.	" "

TUESDAY 26.

Providence 7 1/2	Sabbath School Anniversary
------------------	----------------------------

WEDNESDAY 27

**PUBLIC TEMPERANCE MEETING.**

THURSDAY 28.

Providence 7 1/2 p.m.	Religious State Report
Wesley 7 1/2 p.m.	" "