chant, boiling with rage, did walk out of the room, and going to his own office wrote the letter to the directors of the finance company. There was a meeting of the board the next day, at which the managing director was present. The letter was read, and much astonishment was expressed at its contents. Said the chairman—

"Is what this letter states true, Mr. ——?

"Yes, quite true."

"Well, don't you think that your liberal salary and the liberal commission you receive ftom the company, is enough for your services, without making a charge like this?"

"No, I don't. I introduced the customer. If you don't like it you know your remedy. Dismiss me. I will go, and you know *if I do the concern won't be afloat another month!*"

The matter was no more pressed. The managing director remained in office, and that he continued the same practices is clear from the fact that some time afterwards he demanded ten thousand pounds for himself, on a loan by the company of a hundred thousand pounds. The demand was rejected and the loan never got. What do you think of this style of financing?

Provincial Wesleyan.

SUBSCRIPTION, TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, *strictly in advance.* The figures in connection with the address show the time to which payment has been made; thus, j 68 denotes the payment to be made to January next; ju 67 to July next. All Methodist Ministers in the Provinces are authorized Agents for this Journal.

WEDNESDAY, FEB'Y. 20, 1867.

Prayer for Colleges.

It has long been customary with the various Churches in the United States to set apart annually a day for united and special prayer on behalf of Colleges, and to a limited extent the Churches of the Provinces have joined in this object with their fellow christians of the Republic. But we wish that a more hearty and general interest in this matter were felt among us. It is surely of very great consequence that our Institutions of learning should be under a high religious influence, and should be prospered by the effectual blessing of Heaven. Every thoughtful christian will readily see the importance of prayer on this behalf, and the desirableness of all the churches, where it can conveniently be done, joining on the same day in earnest supplication for the blessing of the Most High upon the various christian colleges of our land. From these will go forth young men who in a few years will take leading positions in the Church, in political life, and in professional and commercial pursuits; and upon the present moulding of their character much will depend as regards the influence they will exert in the various spheres in which they shall be called to move. We wish the several denominations were brought to feel more deeply on this question. We recommend to Methodists not to be unmindful of their duty in this respect, and while they pray for all christian Institutions of learning, especially to remember their own, that God's blessing may largely rest upon Mount Allison College, Academies, and Theological Institution. We are happy to know that these are succeeding admirably, and that tokens of the divine blessing have been experienced recently in an encouraging measure. But there is an urgent necessity that fervent prayer be offered that they may more abundantly be blessed and be rendered a blessing. The day appointed for Prayer for Colleges this year is Thursday, the 28th of the present month.

Missionary Anniversary.

This is Missionary week with the Methodist Churches of this city and Dartmouth. The annual sermons, pursuant to announcement, were preached on Sabbath last by the Rev. Messrs. Brettle, Taylor, and McKeown; and it is scarcely necessary to say that the services rendered by these esteemed brethren on the Sabbath, as well as at the public meetings, were highly appropriate to the occasion, and were not unworthy of the cause which they advocated, nor of the subjects upon which they treated. The great purposes of the Redeemer in regard to our sinful world, and the obligation and privilege of the Church in carrying out those purposes, were faithfully and forcibly presented. In this age of Missionary enterprise every earnest Christian deeply feels the importance of cherishing hearty sympathy with the designs of the Saviour in the evangelization of our race, and the necessity of the greatest possible effort being put forth by every church for the diffusion of the truth, and for the subjugation of the nations of the earth to the sway of the Son of God. In every heart where the love of Christ dwells there will be an intense longing that the world might know the riches of His grace, and proportionate sacrifice and labor to effect this grand result will be cheerfully rendered.

In Missionary institutions we have evidence of the great value of christian co-operation, and can clearly see that while but little could be done in this cause by isolated, single handed exertion, great things can be effected for Christ by His blessing upon the combined services of His people. Missionary organization has called into existence the Missionary Anniversary, and it is felt to be highly proper there should be special seasons set apart for the furtherance of Missionary work. Such occasions are rendered a blessing in the promotion of Christian zeal, in deepening a sense of indebtedness for privileges enjoyed, in prompting the spirit of prayer for the conversion of the world, and inducing the consecration of choicest gifts upon the Missionary altar. In all these respects the results of rightly conducted missionary services are of the highest value, in the direct advancement of the Missionary enterprise, and in the reflex benefits of Missionary ardor, in the cultivation of personal and social piety, and in preparation for other departments of the work of the Lord. The man on whose heart the flame of Missionary zeal burns most brightly and steadily, will be found ready for any service the Master may demand.

We are hopeful that in connection with this Anniversary, the services of the brethren of the deputation and the efficient aid rendered at the meetings by Ministers of other Churches, have been of great advantage to the cause of God, and that the pecuniary results will be found quite equal to those of any previous year. The Methodists of Halifax have long been distinguished for their zeal and liberality in the work of the world's evangelization, and we pray that therein they may yet abound more and more. The amount of the collections taken up on the Sabbath and at the public meetings, we will be able definitely to report in our next issue.

We may observe that the spiritual tone of the Meetings was highly gratifying, as comporting with the solemnity and grandeur of the Missionary enterprise. The resolutions gave evidence of care and thought in their preparation. The Report was a model one. It was manifest at each Meeting that the gentleman who presided, as well as the several Ministers who spoke, deeply felt the importance of the occasion. Indeed we have seldom attended better Missionary Meetings than those with which we have been favored at this Anniversary.

From our English Correspondent.

Severity of the Weather—Sufferings of the Poor—Fatal Accidents on the Ice—Destruction by Fire of an Ancient Church—Injurious Action of Trades' Unions—The Working Classes and Religious Worship—Revivals of Religion—Ecclesiastical Affairs in Italy—Intolerance in Rome.

During the past month we have experienced a severity of weather greater than has been known for a considerable time. The thermometer has frequently registered a temperature several degrees below freezing point, and the sharp frost has been accompanied by extremely cold and piercing winds. Heavy snow storms have also occurred, and old people describe the season as one of our "old fashioned winters." Our canal navigation has been stopped, and monster snow-drifts have, in many places, blocked up our railways. The traffic on turnpike roads has been interrupted, and mail carts and other vehicles have had to be literally dug out of the snow. For three or four days in succession all communication between various towns was suspended; and even the telegraph wires were so weighted with snow, that it was impossible to transmit messages except to very short distances

The interruption to out-door employment caused by this unusually severe weather, together with the extreme cold itself, has occasioned terrible distress among the poorer classes. In the aggregate, hundreds of thousands of labourers have been thrown out of work. In one of our provincial towns the workhouse was crammed with upwards of 4000 inmates; while those in receipt of out-door relief numbered about 20,000 daily; and this is a fair example of the state of things generally throughout the country. But for the prompt and generous efforts made to meet this emergency of helpless poverty, there would have been a condition of widespread starvation and suffering frightful to think of. Soup kitchens have been everywhere opened, and there has been a liberal distribution of bread, meat, blankets, and various articles of clothing. Notwithstanding these supplies, the poor have unavoidably had to endure very trying hardships, and in some places numbers of hunger-bitten men have entered baker's shops and demanded bread. Generally speaking, however, there has been much self-control and patience. I am happy to be able to add, that within the last few days a favourable change in the weather has taken place. In fact, such is the fickleness of the seasons in the "old country," that a genial west wind has suddenly given us quite a spring temperature, and people, throwing off their winter over clothing, and lowering their fires, are actually complaining that it is now too warm!

The lovers of skating have had abundant opportunity of indulging in this favourite exercise, but partly, and indeed generally, owing to the want of due caution, and venturing upon unsafe ice, some disastrous accidents have taken place. One calamity of this kind occurred on the ornamental water in Regent's Park, London, by which a greater number of lives were lost than I ever remember to have heard of by any similar catastrophe. On Tuesday afternoon, the 15th of January, about five hundred persons were on the ice together, when, suddenly, with only a few minutes warning, it became loose at the sides and split up into thousands of pieces, precipitating from two to three hundred skaters into the water. Their screams for help, and the frantic cries of those on the banks produced a scene of most appalling description. Those who saw it say they can never forget it, so agonising was the sight of such a number of men, women, and children struggling in the water, and sinking one after another where help could not reach them. Suitable means of rescue were unhappily very deficient, and although the most courageous and persevering efforts were made to rescue the drowning people, many perished. More than forty bodies have since been recovered by means of drags, and it is feared that about fifty persons must have lost their lives by this fearful accident.

For some time past the newspapers have been reporting an unusual number of conflagrations in various parts of the country, particularly in the metropolis, including large mills, manufactories, and private dwellings. Some lives have been lost, and there has been great destruction of property. To the long list of casualties of this kind has just been added the burning of one of our most ancient and interesting parish churches, at Croydon, about ten miles from London, and close to the palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury. According to some antiquarians, this church was founded in the year 1386, by Archbishop Courteney; and tradition speaks of it as built on the site of a yet older edifice, the date of whose erection stretches back into Saxon times, prior to the Conquest. The church was rich in monuments of our archprelates of Canterbury, some of which were executed with much artistic skill. These have all been destroyed, together with deeds and documents extending from the age of Edward I. to the present time. A strong wind prevailed during the night when the fire took place, driving the flames through the interior with an appalling roar, and the fine old structure soon became a heap of ruins.

A writer in one of our most widely-circulated weekly papers remarked a few days ago, "There is not a thoughtful man in this country who does not look anxiously on the attitude taken by the working classes, and its influence upon the permanent prosperity of the nation." The remark was made in connection with some very temperate and just observations on the injurious action of Trades' Unions. Ostensibly framed at first by the working classes in order to protect what were called the "rights of labour," they have become a power, which is seriously interfering with the relation between the employers and the employed. Some of the regulations which they have adopted are so oppressive to some branches of our manufacturing industry, that masters are contemplating the transfer of their capital to Continental countries, where they will not be liable to this vexatious dictation. The artizans themselves are also often the sufferers by the tyranny of their own unions. A remarkable and lamentable case of this kind occurred only a fortnight ago. I believe I mentioned in my last that in consequence of the slackness in the shipbuilding trade on the Thames, some thousands of workmen were in a condition of great suffering. In order, if possible, to mitigate this distress, the directors of a large shipbuilding company at Blackwall, opened negociations for building some steamers for a foreign company. They found that the terms on which they could obtain the contracts would require them to reduce the wages of the shipwrights from 7s. to 6s. 6d. per day. Even then the company *would realize no profit* on the work, the object being simply to find employment for the men. With starvation before them, incredible though it seems, the men declined the proposed terms; but, in laying the case before the public in one of our leading newspapers, the managing director says, "We have good reason for believing that most of our men would willingly have accepted our offer, but they are forbidden by their trades unions." It is generally felt that this subject is one of the most important and difficult of our social questions.

Last week a conference was held of representatives of the working classes, ministers of christian churches, and gentlemen interested in the great social and religious controversies of the day. The conference opened shortly after 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and was continued, with an intermission of half an hour, until 10 at night. The freest and most unreserved expression of opinion was invited and given, and probably the principal reasons which keep so large a proportion of the artizan class from attendance on public worship were stated. Some rather sharp things, and withal unjust, were said about the shortcomings of Christian ministers, both with respect to their style of preaching and their pastoral work. However the utmost patience and good feeling were displayed, and this free ventilation of thought, and I may add prejudice, will do good. At the same time the objections offered as the hindrances felt by the classes particularly in view, against our religious services, were in themselves really for the most part frivolous. They could not but suggest the prophetic foresight of our Lord in His parable of the "Great Supper," when, speaking of those who refused the invitation, He said, "And they all with one consent began to make excuse." Still, no doubt, useful lessons were learned on both sides.

We have from various places very cheering accounts of the state of the work of God amongst us. Several Quarterly Meetings report an increase during the past quarter; while in some Circuits a very blessed revival of religion has taken place. In the Sunderland Circuit the awakening has resulted in a great number of conversions, and tickets on trial for membership have been given to 570 persons. At Truro and Bodmin in Cornwall, where we have very large congregations, the soul-quickening and soul-converting power have been very graciously and generally felt. One feature of the work is described as consisting in the "large number of young men who have been brought to God." In one chapel it is found necessary to provide enlarged accommodation to the extent of 300 additional sittings. During some special services at Hill Top in Second Wednesbury Circuit we are informed that "Fully one hundred of the very large number of persons, who were deeply distressed and penitent, obtained a clear sense of God's pardoning mercy." The account adds, "Some of those who are now brought in were recently drunkards and careless persons; but most of them are the beloved children of our own people; whole families are now rejoicing together." In the Banff Circuit in Scotland there has been a wonderful work;—"an awful earnestness among the people, and a mighty power with the word." Old and young were seen bowed down together in broken-hearted penitence. Of one place we are told, "The worst drunkards in the village are sitting at the feet of Jesus. The publican was among the first to confess his sins. He has pulled down his sign, smashed his glasses among the rocks, and given the largest room in his house for a young men's prayer-meeting."

One of the most significant events, whether viewed politically, religiously, or socially, has recently occurred in the kingdom of Italy. This is the suppression of religious houses throughout the entire dominions of Victor Immanuel. On the 1st of January all the monastic and conventual establishments were closed, with the exception of a few devoted to literary pursuits, and a few allowed to remain during the lifetime of the present occupants. The unhoused monks are to receive a pension from the State; but monastic orders, with a few unimportant exceptions, are as thoroughly abolished as they were in our own country by Henry VIII., only the thing has been done in a far better manner. It is difficult to appreciate well the marvellous character of this great event; for only a few years ago, Italy was a country where monks, friars, priests and nuns swarmed on all sides, and seemed to hold their own with a most secure grasp. Besides this, the Government is about to submit to the Parliament a scheme for the sale of the whole of the Church property, which, it is calculated, will realise about 1500 million lire. Of this sum 600 million lire is to be paid into the Government exchequer to aid in meeting State liabilities, and the remainder is to be invested in Government Funds for ecclesiastical purposes. What will the Vatican say to all this? In the mean time affairs in the metropolis of the Roman Catholic world are revealing the unchangeable tyranny and intolerance of the Romish See. For the last six years a Presbyterian service has been conducted in Rome during the six months when foreigners throng the city, by an eminent minister of the Free Church of Scotland. The Pepe has ordered the service to be discontinued, and has informed Mr. Lewis, the minister, that by conducting illegal meetings he has put himself in the power of the Inquisition both for arrest and imprisonment! Cardinal Antonelli has also hinted that the American Protestant service will also be prohibited. His Hofiness has moreover forbidden the continuance of the Greek service in the palace of the Roman Legation, and a vigorous crusade is going on in order to purge the "holy city" of all heretical and schismatical worship. One is curious to know what the Protestant countries of Europe, and orthodox Russia, and sensitive America will say to all this.

February 1st, 1867.

From our Canadian Correspondent.

To the Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan:

MY DEAR SIR,—Unless your correspondent makes haste, he will not be able to get a letter despatched to you during this month; but, as you at least, know, Methodist preachers cannot always do the thing that they would, we feel sure that we shall have your forbearance. The past month has been an unusually busy season, nor are the few remaining weeks of winter likely to be less so, for what with Temperance Meetings, Missionary Meetings, Tea Meetings, Protracted Meetings, we are not likely to transgress some of "the Twelve Rules of a Helper," which commands us, "Never to be unemployed," "Never be trifingly employed." Though it must be admitted, that in some of the meetings in which we are called to take part, there is occasionally, some amount of 'trifling,' and it seems almost next to impossible but that in a goodly number of the meetings held at the present day, there is sure to be more or less of this. We remember a gentleman once saying at a public meeting, that a platform speaker might be thus designated, "one who talks half an hour, keeps the people in good humour, then sits down, having said nothing." I suppose he meant, "nothing to purpose." We charitably hope that the gentleman in question was hardly just to the platform, in thus speaking, though it must be admitted, that the tendency of much of the speaking of the present day, would justify such a severe criticism. We do not wonder that an aged Minister once designated Tea Meetings "necessary evils." To do without them, seems now to be impossible, yet to conduct them so that they may not be an injury to the cause of wisdom, not the Church, requires an amount of wisdom always possessed, in these days of electricity, we confess, that we should be glad, if they could be dispensed with altogether, but until we have a return to the mode of giving, which obtained in the days of the Apostles, when "on the first day of the week, persons laid by as God had prospered them," we do not see how this can be, for the demands upon the treasury of the Lord are to numerous, that fresh schemes have, ever and anon, to be adopted, in order that the machinery may be kept in working order.

Owing in a great measure, to the improved state of Canada, the Missionary Meetings of the season are so far, a great financial success; but, there was one feature, in some of those which we attended in the country districts, worthy of note, and that was, the almost entire absence of aged people. In several meetings, we observed, the majority of the congregations were made up of young persons. Of course, we are glad to see the young, for they are "the hope of the Church," but, why should we not also have the aged, and more experienced? We are aware, that the season of the year, at which our meetings are held, is intensely cold, which may, in part account for the juvenile character of our congregations; but, surely when our venerable sires can go out in the coldest days when municipal and other duties call for their presence, we have a right to expect that they should be equally zealous at the festivals of the Church.

Our eloquent Missionary Secretary, L. Taylor, D. D., is not only visiting some of our cities and towns at the Missionary Anniversaries, but is also attending one meeting in each country circuit, for the purpose of infusing a greater interest in our Missionary work. His labours are herculean. Five meetings per week, and one sermon on the Sabbath, and when it is remembered that he seldom preaches or speaks less than an hour and a half, it will be seen, that he requires no ordinary amount of stamina, that he may endure. Doubtless, in a few years, should his valuable life be spared, he will be able to report the Missionary Society free from its pecuniary embarrassment. Mote it so be.

Two more Ministers have finished their course since we last addressed you, and though both of them comparatively young, their deaths are lamented by a numerous circle of friends. Rev. O. H. Elsworth, and R. Shaw, are the honoured brethren to whom we allude. The former had been about 15 years in the ministry, and was a laborious and successful preacher. The latter was a graduate of our noble University, and had only been about 5 or 6 years in the work. He was a young man of promise. We are having a large mortality this year. How pleasing to know, that while the Master buries his workmen, He still carries on His work

It would seem next to impossible to write a letter on Canada, without making some mention of these distinguished (?) personages, who, since June last, have occupied such a large share of public attention; of course we refer to the *Fenians*, whose career seems to be well nigh played out everywhere. You will have heard of Stephens being superceded, and that he, whose word was at one time of such amazing authority, has now gone into the shade, and is obliged to keep his whereabouts unknown, lest his countrymen, who were to have been led to the liberation of Ireland, should be induced to use their shillalahs upon his poor pate. The members of the "brotherhood," who were condemned by our Canadian authorities to be hung, have had their sentence respited to "20 years confinement in the Provincial Penitentiary." Others of them, whose trials are now being held, have been sentenced like those who have preceeded them to be executed, but, no doubt, they will also go to the Penitentiary. The poor fellows, on hearing their sentence, foamed not a little against British rule, and threatened what they would do; but of course all their threats are powerless, and the British authority will still obtain in Ireland whatever Roberts & Co. may be pleased to say to the contrary.

The famous Distillery trials have been brought to a termination. Some time ago, a firm named Halliday were charged with having defrauded the Government by false returns, relating to the quantity of liquors they had manufactured. I believe the case has been some twelve or fourteen times before the Court. Some of the most eminent counsel were employed on both sides, but at length the case was concluded against the defendants, who are sentenced to pay more than $40,000 to the Government. For the sake of the cause of truth and righteousness, we rejoice at the decision, but shall be glad when Governments shall derive their revenues by some other mode, than the taxation of spirits. Right glad should we be, if the manufacture and the sale were both alike prohibited. But, we fear, the day is far distant when such a happy state of things shall obtain. In the meantime, let our Temperance men keep their armour bright. They have achieved much already, but the monster against whom they have taken arms, is not yet slain. He still tyrannises over multitudes, and spreads death and desolation, more terrible than even war with all its enormities.

We are glad to inform the readers of the *Provincial Wesleyan* that the Temperance organizations of our Province are not dead Some of them, we sometimes think, spend too much time on mere routine, and spend some portion of their funds in a rather questionable manner, but the Grand Temple of the I. O. G. T. recently determined to spend $1600 this year in public advocacy. This we consider well done. And some of their advocates whom we have the pleasure to know, are men of no mean character, who will do honor to themselves and to the cause which they advocate.

Again, laying down my pen, I wish your readers good bye.

CANADA.

Jan. 28th, 1867.

Mount Allison Institutions.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—A late issue of your paper announced the approach of the closing Exercises for the present term, of our Educational Institutions. These exercises are now terminated, and you will please give publicity to this brief account of them.

COLLEGIATE DEPARTMENT.

Thursday and Friday, the 7th and 8th inst., were devoted to the examination of the College Students. Classes in Geometry, Calculus, Mechanics, Ethics, Political Economy, Rhetoric, Chemistry, Zoology, the Latin, Greek, German and French languages, came under review, and in general acquitted themselves creditably.—Some of the members of the Senior class, especially, by their promptness and thoroughness, gave evidence of hard and successful study on their own part and of pains-taking fidelity on the part of their Instructors.

ACADEMY, FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

The examination of the classes in this Department commenced on Monday morning, the 11th inst. When the young ladies assembled in the large class room for the devotional exercises, which invariably precede the recitations of every day in all the branches of the Institutions, it was gratifying to notice the indications of good health and good spirits. Indeed, the whole of the present year has been happily free from any case of serious illness among the members of the Academic family. The work of the day was [illegible] laborious both for teachers and pupils. There were in all eighteen classes examined upon subjects extending over a wide field. The very important, but, too frequently neglected study of English Reading had manifestly received considerable attention, and the same may be said respecting the cognate subject of English Grammar. We ought perhaps also distinctly to refer to the classes in Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Ethics which exhibited the marks of successful industry.

ACADEMY, MALE DEPARTMENT.

However much we may regret the sad accident which deprived us of the Male Academy, we are thankful that the work accustomed to be conducted in it is not suspended. The students of this Department now occupy, in part, the College Hall, and enjoy important facilities for the prosecution of their studies. Tuesday, the 12th inst., was taken up with their Examinations, which embraced, besides the usual English branches, Virgil, Xenophon's Anabasis, Natural Philosophy, Mensuration, &c., &c.

THE CLOSING EXERCISES.

These were conducted in Lingley Hall, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., commencing at 9 a. m. The following is the Programme:

I. Reading Psalm 103, singing the 746th Hymn, and Prayer. II. Declamations by Academy Students. 1. "Napoleon," by A. Wilson. 2. "The Federal Union," by A. W. Boardman. 3. "Phrenology," by E. Nash. 4. "Trust not to appearances," by F. J. Hall. "5. "Immortality," by H. Fawcett. 6. Dialogue, "The *quondam* Grocer in need of a Servant," by A. Wilson, R. McCarty, W. Allison and W. C. Cogswell. III. Original Essays by Young Ladies. 1. "Angels unawares," by Miss Minnie Bent. 2. "The wrongs of the Indian," by Miss Annie Kenney. 3. "Will O' the Wisp," by Miss Mary Weldon. 4. "The Philosopher's Stone," by Miss Mary Mellish. 5. "Autographs of Rocks," by Miss Sarah Bent. IV. Declamations by Members of the Freshman Class. 1. "Character of Chatham," by D. Beveridge. 2 "Pompeii," by H. Vaughan. 3. "Poetry," by H. Armstrong. 4. Education, by W. Allison. 5. Spartacus to the Gladiators," by W. C. Cogswell. 6. "Fall of Warsaw.' by R McCarty. 7. La Fayette, by A. Morris.

The Essays of the young ladies were carefully prepared and very distinctly read, and the Declamations of the young gentlemen more than usually prompt and spirited.

We have already referred to the general health of the students, and, it was especially pleasing to hear that, during the term the converting grace of God had been extended to some who were before strangers to true religion. The Reports of "Class Standings and General Deportment" showed that the work of the term had been happy and prosperous.

A few appropriate remarks were made by Revs C. Stewart and Dr. Dewolfe, each of whom paid a deserved compliment to the talented Professor Brown and his assistants for the feast of Music so generously dispensed. The Benediction was pronounced by Father Snowball, and the second term was ended.

Two facts must be impressed upon the mind of every visitor at any or all of their thrice-yearly exercises,—that the members of the Educational Staff are hard workers and that an Examination here is not a formal matter, but is designed really to make apparent whatever degree of success the students have made in the different branches of study.

THE NEW ACADEMY.

Your readers will be pleased to know that the New Academy, occupying precisely the same situation as the one which was destroyed by fire, is fast approaching completion. It is impossible at present, to give such a description of it as will produce in their minds an adequate idea of its appearance. The general impression is very favorable. The exterior is more imposing and chaste than that of the old building and the internal arrangements will certainly be better adapted to the comfort and success of those who may occupy it. This is as it should be, for, experience ought always to give wisdom. One of the most important improvements is the heating of the rooms by steam, the arrangements for which work admirably.

THE THIRD TERM.

The work of another term has already commenced. May it be in every respect a very successful one.

Yours &c. PARVA PARS.

For the Provincial Wesleyan.

Barrington Missionary Meetings.

MR. EDITOR,—I have been expecting to find in the columns of the *Wesleyan*, information relative to some of the numerous Missionary meetings held within the bounds of our Conference.

With your permission I will furnish a few jottings in reference to several of our Missionary meetings held within this District. In accordance with the appointment made at our Financial meeting, I left home on the morning of the 12th ult. to attend the Missionary meetings on the Barrington Circuit. After a long and rather tedious journey I arrived at the Barrington Parsonage, and met with a most cheering welcome from Bro. Thomas Smith, the superintendent of the circuit, who with his kind family, greatly contributed to my comfort during my stay at the parsonage.

On Sabbath morning the 13th, I preached in our new, neat, and well designed Church at Barrington Head. The congregation was good, and the singing excellent. In the afternoon I accompanied Bro. Smith to the "Passage," and preached to an attentive congregation. We returned again to Barrington Head where I preached again to a large congregation.

On Monday afternoon we repaired to Cape Negro. Here I was pleasingly surprised to find a large and commodious Church, located apparently in the woods. However, the large gathering of the people, soon convinced me that the location of the house had been wisely selected. Here the Brethren T. Watson Smith, Hart and Dutcher joined us, and a more cheering, and interesting meeting, I have seldom attended. Our excellent brethren in their earnest advocacy of the cause of missions, gave pleasing evidence of their sympathy with the Redeemer's purpose in the salvation of the world. We were also favoured with an excellent address from Bro. Johston of Shelburne.

This location was hallowed ground as it was the scene of the labours of the sainted James Mann, who laboured and died on this circuit. As I witnessed the readiness with which old and young responded to the call for financial aid in behalf of our foreign missions—I felt that this was one of the results of *Methodist training*; for we have been taught that giving is a part of our religion. I felt deeply interested in this people, and only regretted that our sojourn with them was so short.

After being most kindly entertained at the comfortable residence of Mr. Smith, who has long made his house, the welcome home of our ministers; we left on the following morning for Baccaro where our next meeting was to be held. Here we have a large and well-finished Church, and at the appointed time, though the night was extremely cold, and the roads unfavourable, yet the congregation was good, and the meeting excellent. After partaking of the hospitalities of Bro. Snow, who is a Free Baptist, we left on the following morning for the scene of our next meeting, Barrington Head. Although the evening was very cold, the congregation far exceeded my expectation:—all the brethren were fully in the spirit of our great work, and the meeting like those of the preceding evenings was a good one.

But one more greeting lay before us to complete our work; and on the following morning, although the weather assumed an unfavourable aspect, Bro. Smith and myself left for the Passage, we arrived just in time to meet the commencement of a dreadful storm—and storm it did to the absolute termination of our Missionary campaign. Here we were however entertained by our excellent Sister Sargent, the home of Bro. Ducher, and who for several years has made her house the home of the second preacher on this circuit.

On the following morning we found the roads completely blocked up with snow banks. As my work had now been brought to a termination, I resolved to attempt to break, if not run the block, and if possible, reach the main road in time to meet the coach for Yarmouth. For this expedition, Bro. Smith's horse and a saddle were placed at my disposal, and after plunging through banks of snow until both myself and horse had become weary, I was glad to throw myself upon the hospitalities of Mr. Crosby, who though a perfect stranger to me, gave the stranger a most cordial welcome. Through the kindness of Mr. C. and the people residing along the road, after a few hours, the chief of the banks had been cut through, and after much toil and labour both by man and beast I reached the residence of Mr. Davis the proprietor of the stage coach, just in time to be *one hour too late*. Feeling that apparently my return to Yarmouth that week, was out of the question. I resolved, if possible, to proceed to Shelburne, and attend the Missionary meetings on that, and the adjoining circuit.

Here I met with one of our storm-stayed brethren, Bro. Hart, and arranged, if it was possible to proceed to the scenes of next week's labour. In less than two hours the dreadful state of the roads rendered it necessary for the coach to return.

It now became a question, if the roads to Yarmouth are so bad, can we reach Shelburne in time for the sabbath. After seeking advice from those who understood the probable state of the case, I concluded that should we not hear a more favourable report of the road, to Shelburne, before the coach makes another attempt to reach Yarmouth in the morning it will be my duty to attempt to return home. After partaking of the hospitality of our kind friends Mr. and Mrs. Davison, at eight on the following morning, I left in the stage for Yarmouth. Notwithstanding we had an excellent team, and an experienced coachman, we found the state of the roads to be increasingly bad, that the aid of several men with shovels, was necessary. We soon entered upon what is called the barrens, where for nine miles, we should not meet with a house; our noble horses plunged through the drifts, until unable to extricate themselves; when our *rough* and *ready* shovel-men had to literally dig them out—then followed a long and tedious shoveling through snow banks, when our kind and patient driver, would start his team again. Thus with almost continued clearing, plowing, plunging, we reached the first settlement after more than seven hours toil. As we now found the road partially broken, we parted with our weary escort, the men who had rendered us such needed service.

It strikes me that if the proprietor of the coach, must convey HerMajesty's mails, six times a week, over this nine miles of uninhabited country, that our Legislature should make provision to have this part of the road left clear, during the winter months. Should these lines meet the eyes of any of our representatives, I do hope, that when application is made, for the much needed service, they will give it their support.

At 6 p. m. having been without provision, for either man or beast, since eight o'clock in the morning,—we reached the regular stage at Mr. Spinney's. In about an hour with fresh horses, we continued our journey, and although the roads had been broken, yet in consequence of the depth of the snow, we did not reach our destination until 2 a. m. I hope the brethren T. W. Smith and Hart, reached home in time for the Sabbath duties, but have some fears they did not.

In conclusion I will just remark, that the brethren above alluded to, with Bro. Wasson on the Port Mouton circuits, are labouring over an extent of country, associated with toils and disadvantages, not exceeded in any part of our Conferential territory. And yet the self-denying brethren on those Circuits suffer from year to year the most painful deficiencies on their limited income. Surely such things should not be suffered to exist, when the augmentation of our Home Mission Fund could fully meet all such cases. Let me affectionately say to all our Methodist friends, who have it in their power, that they cannot address themselves to a MORE NEEDED WORK *just now*, than by determining to increase our Home Mission Fund, before next Conference. Let me repeat, DO NOT FORGET THIS IMPORTANT DEPARTMENT OF METHODISM IN OUR PROVINCES.

In reference to our Missionary meeting, for the Yarmouth South and North Circuits, they came off at the appointed time, and the meetings are said to have been excellent.

J. G. HENNIGAR.

Yarmouth, Feb., 1867.

Hillsboro' Circuit, Albert Co., N.B.

MR. EDITOR,—It affords me great pleasure to inform you that a new Church was dedicated at the Albert mines on the 6th of January, under the Superintendence of the Rev. I. N. Parker. The deputation appointed for the occasion were the Rev. Ingham Sutcliffe, Chairman of the Sackville District, and the Rev. Chas. DeWolfe, D. D. Owing to the severe affliction through which our Chairman was called at that time to pass, he was not permitted to attend, thereby causing much disappointment. May the God of all comfort, sustain our dear brother in his sad bereavement. On Sabbath morning—the time appointed for the dedication—the Rev. Dr. DeWolfe appeared. The morning exercises were conducted by the Dr. and the Superintendent of the Circuit, the former preaching from Rev. xxi. 3. Any words which I might utter would fail to give you an idea of the impression made upon the minds of the audience, who seemed to catch eagerly at every word as it fell from the mouth of the speaker.

The afternoon and evening sermons preached by the Dr. were also specimens of true eloquence. The interest was still more enlivened and awakened by the presence of a large choir, accompanied by an organ-melodeon, on which master John Byers performed admirably. The music was excellent. The mining locality is situated about six miles distant from the village of Hillsboro'. The people who are exceedingly orderly and quiet, may well be proud of their new Church. This little edifice was erected at the expense of the company and its efficient manager John Byers, Esq. That the prayers offered that it may be the Bethel of many souls, may be answered, is the ardent wish of the writer.

Feb'y 2, 1867. WESLEY.

Middle Musquodoboit Circuit.

Missionary meetings were held about the middle of last month. The weather, and roads were most favorable, which helped to secure for us an unprecedented attendance upon our meetings. Our modern Apollos Bro. Sprague, was the only member of the deputation who reached Shubenacadie on Monday evening, 14th ultimo. Though quite indisposed for physical toil, did nearly all the work, and I need not add, did it well

On the following evening our Church at Middle Musquodoboit was filled. The cause of Christian Missions was ably advocated by Rev. Messrs. Sprague, Johston, Sedgwick, McMillan, and Father Sprott, whose reason for coming was, "that he might hoist the flag of truth once more among us." Mr. Sprott is extremely feeble in body, but his intellect is as good as ever, and his memory as true to him as in the days of his boyhood. The meeting at Middle Musquodoboit was truly interesting; all the speakers waxed enthusiastic on the delightful theme. The deputation proceeded to Meagher's Grant on Wednesday evening, and inaugurated Wesleyan Missionary meetings in that locality. Mr. Willoughby occupied the chair; doing justice to his position.

This meeting closed the campaign. May the Lord smile upon our efforts to promote so good a cause.

February 4, 1867.

'The Witness' and the Rev. G. M. Grant.

The *Presbyterian Witness* devotes a considerable share of attention and space to a review of the Lecture on "The Reformers of the Nineteenth Century." We make a few extracts from the critique of our contemporary:—

We have to say at the outset, with the most profound regret, that this production as a whole is unworthy of Mr. Grant,—unworthy of any Presbyterian, be he a layman or a minister. It is full of a cant that is beneath Mr. Grant's dignity. It grieves us more than we can tell, to find that we must look in vain in its pages for the warm evangelical spirit that characterises the genuine Christianity of the Nineteenth Century, while in its stead we have doubly distilled Carlylese dishwater, and that Broad Schoolism which was the height of the fashion in England ten years ago, but which is now rapidly dying out, except among extremely sentimental gentlemen whose reasoning powers have not been fully developed. * * * *

All through the lecture there runs an unconscious but very striking imitation of the style of Carlyle. The lecturer cannot, of course, realise the feeling of intense discomfort and disgust excited by such imitations in the minds of hearers or readers well acquainted with the original. It is sound doctrine and practice to call no man master even in style. Be led captive, no, not for an hour, even by a giant like Carlyle. Imitation is a sign and a cause of weakness; our manhood rightly rebels against it.

The title of the lecture is a mistake, and is calculated to raise erroneous expectations. The influence of the men specialised,—Coleridge, Wordsworth, and Carlyle, has been very great, but none of them were Reformers in any proper sense of the term. Isaac Taylor, Foster, Ruskin, Cowper, Crabbe, were as certainly and as notably Reformers as any of the three named by Mr. Grant. It sounds like grim satire to call poor Burns a Reformer—a 'moral and spiritual' Reformer too!

The lecturer, page 7, says, "But certainly there was more living faith in the truths of Christianity during the Eighteenth Century at the Vatican than at any of the headquarters of Protestantism." In the preceding pages and in four succeeding ones the Eighteenth Century is pictured in very dismal colours, and in striking contrast to the Nineteenth. The picture is overwrought. The antithesis is too striking to be true. The Eighteenth Century was the sire of the Erskines and of Boston in Scotland; of Butler, of Whitefield, the Wesleys and Cowper and John Newton, in England; of Jonathan Edwards and of Brainerd in America. Jonathan Edwards, in intellectual power, in "living faith," and in his grasp upon the Unseen and the Eternal towered immeasurably above any modern occupant of the Vatican, and, in all that exalts a Christian, stood far in advance of Coleridge or Wordsworth or Carlyle. See him as he calmly reads those sermons of his; to him and to all who listen, God and Christ and the soul,—heaven and hell,—are overwhelming verities, and multitudes, melted *to tears*, plead for mercy. What shall we say of those epoch-men, the Wesleys and Whitfield?—men of apostolic faith and zeal and enterprise. * * *

The Reformers *specified by the Lecturer* are Coleridge, Wordsworth, and *Carlyle*. We regret that we cannot coincide with the Lecturer's estimate of any of the three. Wordsworth we know well, and to know him is to love him.—But to call him a prophet, a preacher, or a Reformer is simply to misapply language. * * *

Coleridge was indeed a remarkable man, who from boyhood "hungered for eternity," talked like an angel and did—nothing! His chief theories, Carlyle himself characterises as "Coleridgian moonshine." Charles Lamb quaintly described him as an Archangel—*slightly damaged*." * He laboured hard to upset "Bibliolatry"—that is, what he chose to call the worship rendered by Protestants to the Bible. He asserted that the Bible is not the Word of God, but that it *contains* the Word of God. Such were the latest, the maturest teachings of this great but most eccentric old man, who was physically, morally and spiritually morbid from boyhood to the grave. * * *

The Lecturer has himself evidently caught more of Carlyle than of the other two. The lecture is far from being free from Carlyle's cant; but such things the Lecturer has caught unconsciously from the great man whom he holds in high estimation. Whom we love we imitate without ever thinking we do so. In this lurks a great peril. Imitation of style may lead to community of sentiment. Far too much of this Lecture is Carlylish in doctrine as well as in style. A weaker mind, in such circumstances might be led away into the cold dark caverns and homeless deserts into which Carlyle led poor Sterling. The Lecturer speaks of reading Carlyle for five years. Well, we warn the youth that undertakes such a task that before that period is half over he will become a "green windbag," his head will be turned with the ghost of murdered "shams," of "cant," of "earnest purpose," of "unveracities," "unbelievabilities," "obnubulancies," "gigmanity," and Heaven knows what all. A course of Isaac Taylor, Foster, Henry Rogers, or James McCosh would be unspeak