WESLEYAN TAB

JULY 7, 1877

THE WESLEYAN,

The only Methodist Paper published in th

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rince Edward Islan large and increas and Ber As an ADVERTISING MEDIUM IT HAS NO EQUAL

in these Provinces. Rev. S. ROSE, Methodist Book Room To

is Agent for this paper.

All Wesleyan Ministers are Agents.

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1877.

THE ST. JOHN FIRE.

We have within a few days past walked over a thousand acres of burnt city, and looked upon the ruins of dwellings which gave shelter and comfort to twenty thousand inhabitants. On all that region from King Street to Reeds point, taking in the entire peninsula, having King Street as its base, there is but one wide, awful scene of naked chimnies, smouldering foundations and the ashes of a city's glory. No pen need attempt a description of it :- there is but one word for it-desolation. At four o'clock on Friday morning of last week, we followed the round of streets over which in past days we paid pastorial visits of joy and sorrow; and only the Deserted Village, with a special touch of Dante's imagination here and there on the picture, could equal what we saw. An earthquake could not have wrought more effectual misery, save as to the inhabi. tants; though all the woe as to the loss of these will perhaps never be made known. There is a point in what was once Princess Street, on which the spectator may take in at a glance what the fire has done, so far as buildings are concerned. A solitary outline of brick walls-such as that of one schoolhouse which cost \$70.000-stands here and there in the district; but all else is cellar-walls and crumbling chimnies. Knowing the city well, we see no explanation of the course taken by the fire north of King's Square, but that of incendiarism. The wind did not change in that direction, but rather in the opposite; yet the fire ate its way to l, cutting out checkers here and there from the solid blocks. The crime of deliberately firing the city may as well be added to the opinion of its accidental origin. One or two typical objects presented themselves to those who took with us the rounds of the ruins. In front of where the Centenary church stood, the large bell, having been precipitated outward from the steeple, lies by the side of the street, cracked and blackened. In the ashes of a once elegant mansion was seen the metal remains of a piano, shaped like a harp, as if it had fallen squarely from the wood after the fire had done its work. On the doorstep of its ruined home sat a miserable cat. singed and starving, waiting for a family which would never return. One of our company stepped up to the creature, pushed it gently with his foot, when the only motion it made was a blinking of the eyes. Our friend declares he will forever be haunted by the recollection of this poor, forsaken pet of some desolated home. But in those objects we could see suggestions of the overwhelming woe which had passed over the dwelling places of religion art, science and animal life. It gives one an elevated view of human nature to watch the spontaneity of the benevolence with which this distress has been met everywhere. A friend who knew the facts assured us that, among the barrels which came from Boston, was one containing a table-cloth. which had been evidently gathered up from some rich mans breakfast-table, with all its contents of silver, food and china. All appetite had been stayed seemingly in that house when news came in of the St. John sorrow, and the breakfast which could not be enjoyed at home was shut out, rolled up in the hurry of the moment, to feed the hungry abroad. Nor was St. John itself behind in generosity. A baker whose property had escaped went through the crowds with his cart crying "Free bread, free bread," refusing to take money for that day of suffering. But we leave all this for history.

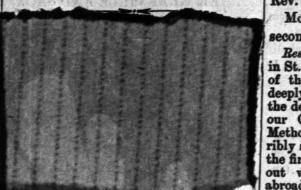
OUR CAUSE IN ST. JOHN. There are denominational aspects of the St. John calamity which this paper may fittingly represent. From personal observation and enquiry we are convinced that among our people in the sister city the stroke is most prostrating. It will require years for them to overcome the waste of this desolation; and measures designed for their relief ought to be organized with a view to covering the necessities of several years to come. Families who were wealthy ten days ago are all but ruined as to property. They who gave liberally to others, and for benevolent purposes, are now dependent on the kindness of neighbours. Every prudent means should be employed to reach those beloved friends, and to comfort them in tribulation. Let it be seen that Methodism is a bond of love and charity. It is assumed that scarcely a family belonging to Centenary church has escaped with either house or furniture. Of Germain St. pewholders, not more than fifteen have saved anything of value. As to the Mission at Carmarthen St. it was in the heart of the fire-which is quite enough to say. What shall we write of our ministers Young men, with their families safe their strength unimpared, life al bright before them, may do with words of cheer and comfort. But we have several supernumeraries in St. John-four we believe-besides an estimable widow and family of a deceased minister — whose property — houses, furniture, libraries, all went with the flames! These must have help. The church which flourishes by their successful labours, will not forget them. God gives us these objects of providential trouble to nurture and to solace. Prayers and kind letters they. should

have; but so also should they have, from funds opened under the care of the New Brunswick Conference, such substantial help as will lift them into a region of comfort. Rev. John Prince of Sussex, N. B., or indeed either of the St. John ministers would know what to do with private benefactions. A deputation has been appointed to visit Nova Scotia, another to Newfoundland, as also one to the United States. These will all have a cordial reception. Rev. H. Sprague A.M., leaves for Eng-

PERSONAL -Onr readers every where will regret to hear that our venerable father. Pope had a severe stroke paralysis, on Wednesday of this week ; he lies helpless and unconscious at the time of this writing.

Rev. Dr. Stewart was a passenger by the Circassian from Newfoundland thi

The Editor of the WESLEYAN is attend ng the camp-meeting which commence at Berwick on Wednesday.



ST. JOHN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

A friend has intimated his intention to give fifty dollars towards the Sabbath schools of St. John, and expresses the hope that this will be a nucleus of a good fund for supplying our neighbors' children with books in their present destitu. tion. The Book Room will supply the books at cost. Any subscriptions towards this object may be sent in to the Methodist Book Room, Halifax, and will receive public acknowledgment, in the name of our St. John brethren. The fund should be made up at once.

WE cannot too much admire the energy of the St. John daily press. This is a good time to express to the News and Telegraph the indebtedness of our weekly papers to their generosity and zeal. For ourselves, we have to say, in behalf of the office and our readers, that the two papers alluded to have continued to send us in exchange, their admirable dailies, while we had but a weekly to return. Long may our contemporaries survive and flourish, after overcoming, their present great affliction. Their readers will be ar with them till they recover.

SALISBURY-An excursion trip on the Albert Railroad line, from Salisbury to Hillsborough and the Albert Mines, on Monday, 2nd inst., was a decided success. About 800 persons availed themselves of this holiday recreation, and the net proceeds will be handsome towards the liqui dation of the debt on the Methodist church in Salisbury.

Brisay, William Sargent. Many the ministers paid tributes of respect to the memory of the deceased brethren. Committee for furthering the inter-

ests of the Camp Meeting appointed. AFTERNOON SESSION

opened as usual. Sabbath School Report by Rev. W. H. Evans. Report adopted. Pastoral Address, prepared by Revs. E.

B. Moore and T. W. Smith, read by Rev. S. F. Huestis.

Moved by the Rev. J. McMurray, seconded by Rev. Thos. Rogers, and Resolved, That the desolating calamity in St. John, by which so large a portion of the city has been laid in ashes, has deeply moved this Conference ; and that the destruction of so great an amount of our Connexional Property which the Methodists of that city, owing to the terribly severe losses they have sustained by the fire, will not be able to rebuild, without very considerable assistance from abroad, calls for the practical sympathy of Methodists everywhere.

Therefore Resolved, That we will kindly elcome any duly authorized deputation from the United Board of Trustees that may visit our circuits, and will co-operate with our people in rendering help in this great exigency.

The ballot for a representative to the Transfer Committee, was then taken. Rev. R. A. Temple was elected.

Rev. C. Jost elected as a representaive to the Educational Board.

Rev. S. F. Huestis was elected as epresentative to the Central Missionary Board.

The subscriptions in behalf of the St. John sufferers was then taken up \$252 was realized.

The Chairmen of Districts were then elected. The list of their names will appear in the Station Sheet this week.

EVENING SESSION.

Bermuda affairs under review. Much correspondence between ex-President Temple and the Missionary Secretaries was read, provoking much discussion. As a result, it was

Resolved. That, in the opinion of this Conference, no change, affecting territor-ial relations in Bermuda affairs, can take place until action is taken thereupon by the General Conference. Conference adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, June 27. Conference opened as usual. Journal read and approved. Bermuda affairs again under discussion. Rev. R. A. Temple moved a reconsideration of the resolution passed last evening, which

2. That the Conference is always ing to justify its decision when requested to do so, by any authorized person or persons through its official representative head.

3. That though circulars have reached certain members of the Conference ing the year, calling for evidence in premises, up to this date no reques communication on the subject has reac the Conference itself. Consequently, position of the Conference remains changed.

METHODIST BOOK ROOM.

Resolved, That the Annual Report of the Book Room and WESLEYAN Office having been laid before the Conference, we have great gratification in reaffirming our confidence in the working and usefulness of this important institution of our church. The Conference would renew very earnestly its recommendation to our people, to the Superintendents of Circuits and to the officers of Sabbath Schools the exceeding desirableness of our own literature being circulated widely; that the precious doctrines of Gospel truth, so greatly valued by our church from the eginning, may as much as possible be written on the minds and hearts of our youth and of our whole people.

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Resolved, That the brethren of this Conference feel very grateful to Rev. A. W. Nicolson, for the great diligence and success with which he has administered the affairs of the Book Room and WES-LEYAN Office, and beg to assure him that they have unlimited confidence in his in. tegrity and impartiality.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Conference be given, and is hereby tendered, to the friends at Yarmouth, for their kindness and liberality in entertaining the members of the Conference.

The thanks of the Conference was also given to A. F. Stoneman, Esq., for the use of his hall for Committee pur-DOSES.

Moved by Rev. J, M. Pike, seconded by Rev. W. H. Heartz, and

Resolved. That the Report of the Special Committee on the Children's Fund be laid on the table until next year, and that the Circuits be taxed this year for the Children's Fund the same as last year. and in the event of a-deficiency, that the claim of each child bear an equal deficiency.

Bro. Cassidy then read the letters prepared by the letter-writers, which were approved.

The next Conference will meet at Amherst, N. S. After some miscellaneous matters were discussed, the journal was read and approved. The Minutes were then read and signed by the President and Secretary, and after devotional exercises, the fourth Nova Scotia Conference came to a close.

SABBATH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY A very interesting Sunday-school ser-

land by next steamer, with a view to bring the sorrowful fact before the British Conference. We predict for them all the highest measure of suc-

Rev. A. M. Philips, National Secretary of the United Temperance Association of Canada will be at the session of the Provincial Lodge of N. S., in Halifax on Tuesday, July 10th. He will take part in the proceedings, and address the Public Meetings.

Arrangements have been made with the authorities of the Intercologial Railway, to carry visitors to the Methodist Bazaar to take place in Charlottetown on the 10th inst., and return, for one fare. Purchasers of tickets for the Bazaar will receive from the Rev. John Lathern certificates. to be presented at the Railway Ticket Offices on return.

Rev. John Ellis, a beloved young minister of the New Brunswick Conference, is very ill, at his fathers residence, near St. John. He desires to express his gratitude for a gift of \$40 sent him through Bro. Campbell, from his own (the Fredricton) District Meeting. Mr. Eilis' address is Shanklin, St. John Co.,

N.B. We sympathize with our desr brother, whom we have long known as most estimable in all good qualities.

Rev. T. W. Smith returned a few days since from a visit to Newfoundland. He visited the Conference, then in session at Carbonear. Brother Smith evidently entertains a high opinion of the ministry of our church in that island, and speaks in high terms of the courtesy shown him by the members of the Conference, and by those of the laity whom he had an opportunity of meeting. Reg. John Goo dison was elected President. Dr. Stewart, who also visited the Island, remains to accompany Rev. G. S. Milligan on one of his educational tours. Dr. Douglas is expected shortly from Canada. Rev. E. Boyd, lately supplying at Windsor, was to be ordained on the evening of Monday, the 18th ult.

Our articles on Newfoundland Metholism will be resumed shortly when material necessary to make them comes to hand.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS. (CONTINUED.)

MONDAY, June 25.

Close of afternoon session. After considerable, discussion, it was moved by Rev. A. W. Nicclson, seconded by Rev. J. A. Rogers,---

That this Conference has listened with deep interest to the explanations given by Dr. Pickard, concerning the proposed scheme for the amalgamation of the Supernumerary Funds of the Conferences, and as far as it can now judge, deems it advisable to amalgamate our Supernumerary Fund with that of the Western Conferences.

Therefore Resolved,-That a committee be appointed to obtain, during the year, and furnish at the next Conference, all possible and necessary information bearing upon the Supernumerary Fund, and also upon the results which would be likely to follow an amalgamation with the General Conference Fund ; and that said committee shall furnish such information to the several brethren by printed circulars.

Conference then adjourned.

TUESDAY, June 26. Conference opened by devotional exercises. The Journal Secretary read the records of yesterday's proceedings. Rev. J. A. Rogers gave notice of reconsideration of the resolution in reference to the Supernumerary Fund.

Report of the Contingent Fund Com. mittee adopted. Examination Com nittee of the Theological Students at Sackville reported. Report adopted. The Rev. R. A. Temple and Rev. J. A. Rogers were appointed Examining Board to the Theological Institution at Sackville for next year. The Supernumerary Fund Committee reported. Many of the brethren thought there ought to be more diligence in taking up the Supernumerary Fund collection. Church Property and Parsonage Aid Fund Committee reported. After some discussion of a miscellaneous character. the question -- Who have died during the year ? was then taken up.

Davis, Michael Pickles, Albert S. Des. in relation to this subject. Four have died, viz.: Thomas H.

was carried. After much discussion, the resolution was again confirmed. The spiritual report was then read. A Committee was appointed on Bermuda affairs. The question-What candidates are allowed to attend the Institutions at Sackville? was considered, and the names of the young men were read.

AFTERNOON SESSION. Some discussion ensued in relation to the Blackburn estate. Statistical returns from Circuits reported. Temperance Committee reported. Names of deputation to attend Educational Meetings in the several districts read and confirmed. The cases of several candidates and probationers were reconsidered.

EVENING SESSION. The entire evening was taken up with discussions of a miscellaneous and financial nature.

THURSDAY, June 28. Conference opened with devotional exercises. Journal of yesterday's proceedings read and approved.

The Committee on Miscellaneous Resolutions reported. There was some discussion concerning the Westfield Church. Votes of thanks were given to the officials of the Conference. The following resolution was moved

by Rev. C. Jost, seconded by Rev. J. Shenton :

Whereas, we have been favoured during the present session of our Conference with the presence and counsel of our esteemed brother, Rev. H. Pickard, D. D., of the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference ; and

Whereas, we have heard his statement of his intention to request a Supernumerary relation to his Conference at its present session in Frederiction ;

Therefore Resolved, That we express our high appreciation of the very efficient ser-vices in different departments of our con-nexional work, of a brother whose relations to us, especially before the recent division of the E. B. A. Conference, has been so long continued, and earnestly pray that God may direct his future course and crown him with abundant blessing. B. A. BOOK AND TRACT DEPOSITORY. After very considerable discussion upon the decision given last year in respect to the Book and Tract Society, it

Resolved, 1. That the Conference is fully

vice was held in the Methodist Church, Milton, on Tuesday evening. As the Conference was in session, in the absence of the President, the chair was taken by Rev. Mr. Alcorn. After singing, prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Ainley. The Report was presented by the Secretary, Rev. W. H. Evans. The following is an abstract of the Report :-- " The Committee, in submitting their Annual Report, do so with feelings of devout gratitude to God for the success vouchsafed in every department of the work. During the year there has been an increase in the attendance at the Class meeting, and in the number learning our catechism. They view with pleasure the growing interest which is being taken in the religious training of the young of our Church. The seed sown has fallen in ground prepared for its reception by the good Spirit of God. Convinced of the vast importance of the work, they would commend it to the constant sympathy, prayers and support of our people. They are persuaded that much more remains to be done to make our schools as efficient as they might be made. With the increased facilities at command, a much larger proportion of our children ought to be gathered into the Church. If the world's wickedness is to be arrested and destroyed, it will be done chiefly by preserving the young in the fold of Christ. Our motto must be " The children for Jesus." Believing as they do, that all our children have been redeemed by the Saviour, and having dedicated them to him in the sacred ordinances of Baptism, our duty is to train them for Him. The Committee regret to notice that in several circuits, no school reports the teaching of our catechism. They would affectionately suggest to the officers and teachers the advisability of restoring it. They would also suggest to the parents that they frequently visit the schools, and thus cheer the teachers and scholars in their work. They would further recom-mend to the Ministers and Preachers that as far as practicable they organize Sabbath schools on every circuit and mission, and they report our children attending Union Schools, and that greater attention be paid in filling up the schedules, so as to ensure correct returns. The following topics were spoken to ;

The Sabbath-school work in its relation to the future prosperity of our Church," Rev. J. R. Borden. "The necessity of careful preparation on the part of the officers and teachers for Sabbath-school omeers and teachers for Sabbath-school work;" Rev. A. S. Tuttle. "The Conver-sion of the young to Christ, the supreme object of Sabbath-school work;" Rev. W. Ryan. "The relation of the family to the Sabbath-school;" Rev. W. Purvis." Meeting closed with doxology and bene-diction