

The Wesleyan

337

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. XXVIII

HALIFAX, N.S., OCTOBER 21, 1876.

NO. 43

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.

**EIGHT HUNDRED MILES DUE
SOUTH.**

ARTICLE 3.

Hamilton, as the seat of Government, and the place of the Governor's residence, is of principal importance. The roads entering the town are very beautiful. More unbragging and wider than the streets of St. George's, the locality appears to excellent advantage approaching from either direction.

At the invitation of Mr. Wasson we were met by some fifty members of his congregation on the day of our arrival. Both here and at St. George's we were much impressed with the marked intelligence of the official members of the churches. Solitude—we mean by this the enforced seclusion of the islands from the outside world—cannot be either irksome or tedious with so genial and pleasant an element about one. Imprisonment there is endured under golden chains and in lordly society. When a new church and parsonage adorns Hamilton, as they do now St. George's, we would not be surprised to see a strong ministerial and congregational life.

On the way to Somerset, we enjoyed the treat of a rare landscape. Those hundreds of sunny islands, most picturesquely diversified as to location and colouring—here enclosing a lagoon most tropical, there jutting out proudly into the ocean—with all the variations of water, sky and foliage in softest shades, make a prospect which memory calls up faithfully while we write. The Lighthouse itself had attracted our attention in the offing as we neared Bermuda, throwing a powerful flash light, seen twenty miles away. It will astonish our youthful readers to learn that the actual flame is not much larger than that of a heavy parlour lamp. But the reflectors! These are adjusted—many scores if not hundreds of them—in most precise harmony with the laws they are designed to obey.

TEMPERANCE IN BERMUDA.

The Independent Order of Good Templars have a good hold of the Island. They own property to a considerable extent. Well aided by military gentlemen and resident clergymen of the different churches, the Order embraces a membership of intelligence and zeal. All this tells on the social life of Bermuda. It is significant that last year the revenues from liquors fell off to the extent of £2000 sterling. Admitting that the duty was 50 per cent, there must have been a decline in the aggregate traffic of twenty or thirty thousand dollars. Say that of the 12,000 population one half consumed intoxicating drinks, this would show a saving of at least three dollars per man. This is something to be proud of as the work of a single year. In the public and military hospitals, it is easy to discover that strong drinks have much to do with the maladies of the Island. Pulmonary troubles prevail among those who, excessively overheated by alcohol and its stimulus are brought speedily under the reaction as the pores close and perspiration ceases. The Temperance cause in Bermuda is doing a grand sanitary as well as moral work.

Just before leaving for our voyage we copied what was spoken of as a great natural wonder—the opening, in a New Brunswick town, of a Night Blooming Cereus. Here we crowd to the scene when such an announcement is made. In Bermuda, we counted by lamp-light twenty-one of the richest of these Cactus blossoms in a single group. Their is not a single night that these gorgeous flowers are not

wasting their fragrance—none of the most delicate, though—on unadmiring wastes. Any Cactus bush, which yonder throws out its amazing wealth of floral grandeur to heedless travellers, would here make a fortune for an exhibitor. Will some enterprising youth take the hint and pay us part of the profits for this suggestion? A visit to Bermuda is not complete without the experience of a bath in those clear, warm, buoyant waters. To escape from the heat of the sun into a shady nook, where three or four fathoms of air inviting a sea as ever reflected the outline of a bather, lies temptingly at your feet—to regulate the leap so that the fingers are first and the toes last to touch water—to thrash and plunge and rest by turns without dreading harmful contact or any injurious effects to the system, is a most complete enjoyment.

ST. JOHN CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—In your last week's issue of the WESLEYAN you intimated that your St. John correspondent might possibly furnish your readers with information respecting the recent visit and doings of members of the

MISSIONARY BOARD.

The information has been already fully given by the local press, with an accuracy and enterprise alike creditable and commendable. It may be that many of your readers rely entirely upon your columns for such information, and therefore we will try to give in very general terms some facts connected with the recent visit of the lay and clerical dignitaries of our Church on the Missionary Board.

The pulpits of our city Methodist churches on the Sunday preceding the meeting of the Board were ably filled by ministers from abroad. The Rev. Mr. Sanderson and the Rev. Dr. Jeffers officiated in the Centenary, the first in the morning, the latter in the evening. It is not our purpose to give any outline of thought pursued by these honored divines on these occasions. Suffice it to say, their discourses were opportune, in keeping with the time and place, highly missionary in sentiment, and breathing an earnest desire for the speedy evangelisation of all the peoples and nations of the earth. On the following Monday evening in the same place, the

HON. SENATOR FERRIER of Montreal, delivered his well known lecture upon his journeyings through the "Lands of the Bible." It will be remembered this journey was made some years ago, and that Dr. Lechlan Taylor was one of the party. The proceeds of this lecture are to be devoted to French missions. It was a lecture of great interest, and much appreciated by those present.

THE PUBLIC MEETING

of the Missionary Board was held in the Centenary on Tuesday evening last. Much interest had been aroused in this missionary enterprise, and in consequence the church crowded was in every part. Mr. Ferrier presided, and he was surrounded on the platform by the members of the Board. The report was read by the Rev. Dr. Wood, (a name held dear in St. John,) and Mr. Sutherland. The speakers were Rev. Messrs. Temple, Willoughby, Dove, Williams, and Dr. Douglas, and Messrs. McDonald, Clendenning and Judge Deacon. We cannot, in the space of a short letter attempt even a faint outline of the different speeches. The appeals for aid in this noble missionary work, were earnest, practical, convincing; and the man who could listen to such appeals and not give, would require to have his pockets securely buttoned up. Mr. John McDonald, M. P., in his short, pithy speech, struck a key note, that did not altogether fall musically upon the ear of Mr. Clendenning and Dr. Douglas. The position of the Toronto M. P. was briefly this—that the time had fully come when greater self-reliance on the part of Home Mission circuits, should be looked for and anticipated—that many of those circuits had for years been absorbing large sums of missionary money, when they were well able to help themselves. He did not advocate an indiscriminate withholding of grants, but only in those directions, when continued aid had relaxed the self-reliance of the people, and dried up the fountains of their liberality. He desired more money for the foreign mission work, and

stated that as a Church we were now expending only three cents a member for our missions in Japan. Of course Dr. Douglas and Mr. Clendenning reside in a community entirely exceptional, and the work in the Province of Quebec, in many points of view, may well be regarded as foreign work. Without wishing to be invidious, we cannot leave this part of our letter, without saying a few words about Dr. Douglas' closing speech. He did not expect to speak, being indisposed. It was past 10 o'clock, and the meeting was apparently about being closed, when a cry for Dr. Douglas came from all parts of the church, and the people would not take no for an answer. The Rev. gentleman finally yielded to the general wish, and in the course of his three quarters of an hour's speech displayed a richness of historical attainments, a command of polished speech, a grasp of thought, and a keenness of logic delightful to witness, and but rarely conjoined in one person. Dr. Douglas is an orator of a high order. He talks not for mere display. He makes you feel that he is in earnest, the first great requisite of true oratory.

We do not know what the collection realized, but we think from the effect produced by the meeting, that a spirited canvass among our people in this city would result in liberal subscriptions. Of course not being a member of the Board, we are not in a position to communicate any facts concerning its deliberations.

THE FIRST SNOW

greeted us this morning from the hill tops surrounding the city. Yesterday was exceedingly wet and disagreeable, towards night it grew cold, and finally came the snow. A glance at the morning papers shows that two candidates have already expressed a willingness to sacrifice themselves for their country. It is interesting to note that the death of Mr. Keans has vacated a seat in the

LOCAL LEGISLATURE

for the city of St. John. Mr. Marshall and Mr. C. A. Everett are now fairly in the field. At this time it is too soon to speculate upon the result, as rumour has it that several more candidates will be to the front to contest the vacancy. The great political fight going on in the

UNITED STATES

for the Presidency attracts considerable notice from the more thoughtful of our people. Since the Republicans gained Ohio by such a slim majority, and lost Indiana, the prospects of the Democrats again grasping the reins of power are bright indeed. The Democratic cause was not lost even if Indiana had gone Republican. If they could carry New York, N. Jersey and Connecticut, they would still succeed. Their success in Indiana will strengthen their chances of success in these States. As rats are said to quit a sinking ship, so many of the "free and independent" electors vote for success not on principles, and are ever ready to worship the "rising sun." Still the result is yet by no means assured. If the Democrats succeed, it may largely revolutionize the commercial relations between that country and Canada. It has generally been understood that the Democrats are in favour of "hard money" and free trade, but assured success might work a change in the "spirit of their dreams." Canada must look to no political party in Uncle Sam's territory for the extension of her foreign trade, and the development of her internal resources. She must rather rely upon her own resources natural and acquired, upon the energy, the pluck and intelligence of her people.

BUSINESS MATTERS

with us are brightening up. It may be that this is no indication of a permanent revival of trade, but only a temporary improvement usual at this season of the year. From a business gentleman of Montreal, we learned a few days since, that business in that city was "looking up," and the general impression was that we had passed the lowest level of commercial depression. Several orders for ships have lately been given to our builders here, and a healthier feeling prevails than for some time past. N. B.

Oct. 16, 1876.

It is said that the Equimaux of Labrador are in a very happy condition, owing to the judicious manner in which they have been treated by the English officials. Scores of them have grown comparatively wealthy by successful dealings with the fishermen who go to their coast from England, Massachusetts, Canada, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland in the summer months. Many of them have built comfortable dwellings, and their children are educated by the Protestant, Catholic, and Moravian missionaries.

PLEASANT TIDINGS OF MISSIONARY MEETINGS.

MY DEAR BRO.—We had a glorious Missionary Meeting last evening, though owing to the unpleasantness of the weather the congregation was not large. The speakers were Rev. J. A. Williams, Ex-President of the London Conference, and John McDonald, Esq., M. P., Treasurer of the Missionary Society. These dear brethren took forcible possession of the hearts of the people, and created an amount of enthusiasm that rolled up our subscription list to six times the amount collected year. Who will beat that?

R. ALDER TEMPLE.

Oct. 17, 1876.

WINDSOR MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.

DEAR WESLEYAN.—Last Sabbath, 15th inst., our Missionary Anniversary was held. Notwithstanding the day was so very unpleasant we had fair congregations, and very excellent meetings. By the appointment of the Central Board we were honored with the presence of the Rev. G. R. Sanderson, the President of the London Conference.

Mr. Sanderson preached in the morning from Psa. 89. 15, 16, a most appropriate missionary sermon, and in the evening gave us an admirable address. The visit of Mr. S. has given great satisfaction to our people, our only regret is that he could not have remained with us longer, and visited other circuits. We had also a brief but excellent address from Bro. Parker.

The collection and subscriptions reached the sum of about \$340. At least, one third of our regular contributors were absent, owing to the dark and rainy night. As this was the first meeting held since the meeting of the Central Board, and the presence of the President of the Board was clearly stated, it is gratifying to know that our friends manifested a disposition to meet the emergency by increasing their annual subscriptions.

Windsor will do its share toward meeting the additional sum which the Board has, this year, appropriated for Domestic Missions. Cannot we have an advance in all our circuits? Your's truly,

S. F. H.

Miss Kate Field narrates in the Graphic these stories of "The Country Parson."

Two trustworthy men assured me that they have seen the Rev. Dr. Boyd deliver a sermon in white kid gloves. More than one related to me the following story: Travelling one day in a railway carriage, "The Country Parson" had for his neighbor a plainly dressed but extremely intelligent man, in whose conversation he became much interested. On finding that the stranger intended getting out at the town in which he resided, he expressed his desire to invite the clever unknown to dinner, but added that it would be impossible, as Mrs. Boyd always required gentlemen to dress for dinner. Having made this graceful speech, the parson exchanged cards with the Duke of Argyle! The parson stammered; the parson apologized; the parson was snobbish enough to eat his own words, and beg of the Duke to waive ceremony. It is unnecessary to say that the Duke of Argyle did not waive ceremony, and that the story has flown from one end of Scotland to the other.

JUDGE MARSHALL CRITICISES MR. WESTON.

REV. AND DEAR SIR.—The accompanying letter, addressed to the Editor of the Citizen, was presented by me at the office of that paper, for publication, when I was informed, that twenty dollars were paid for the insertion of Mr. Weston's discourse, and that my letter would be published in that journal, by my paying at the like rate according to the space it occupied in the paper. This I was unwilling to do. I therefore request that you will oblige me, by publishing my letter in your widely circulated journal, for the information of the public, on the subjects discussed. Yours truly,

J. G. MARSHALL.

October 12, 1876.

To the Editor of the "Citizen."
SIR.—I have read in your paper of 7th inst., Mr. Costello Weston's anti-scriptural and anti-Christian discourse on various religious subjects. As the great body of

your readers hold scripture faith and opinions directly contrary to those expressed by Mr. Weston, I must presume, that on their behalf, as well as my own, and in common fairness, you will allow me reasonable space in your journal, for an exposure of the many and dangerous errors in that discourse; and for the vindication of scripture truth which is therein assailed. From former knowledge of Mr. Weston's writings on religious subjects, I am not surprised at the unscriptural character of this discourse. He has not as is usual, taken any portion of scripture, as a text, for the perfect reason, that from Genesis to Revelation a single passage cannot be found to afford any countenance to his erroneous and profane production. Neither has he, in any part of his very extended and comprehensive discourse, cited a single passage of scripture, to support any one of his positions or opinions. This does not look very convincing, especially as his pastoral charge, presumptuously takes the title of the "Church of the Redeemer," who is the Eternal Word of all scripture revelation. I will frankly say, that I very much doubt, whether the whole discourse is Mr. Weston's production, or is in part borrowed; having been previously framed by some superior and more insidious mental power. However, as it is all put forth in his name, it must, of course, be considered as his own, whether in entire original composition, or by partial adoption.

He speaks of the conclusions of modern thought bristling with denials; and asserts "They are vital with worthy beliefs pushing their way to the surface;" and says as to this truth, as he calls it, "A mighty influence has always hindered and blinded us." He has not been so candid and bold as to name that "mighty influence." But it is really, no other than the scriptural religion, which has always repelled and defeated the attacks of all ancient and modern infidel philosophers, and pre-natal scientists, from Celsus, Porphry and Julian and others, down through all centuries to Gibbon; Hume, Hobbs, Collins, Voltaire and Paine; and will continue in like manner, to defeat the attacks of a Bunsen, a Williams and other hostile essayists, also a Colenso, Huxley, Tyndale, Chapin, Weston, and all others of the modern opposing fraternity, when they are all gone to their final award, as the others have received theirs, from the Almighty and Righteous Author of that mighty influence which is the power of His revealed infallible and unchangeable truth, "which liveth and abideth forever."

Mr. W. says, that men—not mentioning who they are—"Point us to the centuries between the seventh and twelfth, as the golden days of faith." He must be very imperfectly acquainted with Church history; for no intelligent Christian has ever called that period a golden age; but all such well know, from that history, that, on the direct contrary, from the seventh, not merely to the twelfth, but to the fifteenth, or even to the beginning of the sixteenth century, have always been called the dark ages,—not golden but leaden.

He mentions Luther approvingly, as exercising, and being a friend and supporter of "free thought" or religious subjects; but he does not mention the distinguishing character of all Luther's sentiments and opinions, that he founded and drew them, exclusively, and entirely, on and from the authority and binding force of Scripture truth. Every true Christian and every Evangelical Church have always done the same. He asks "if it be true that the intelligence of Christendom is becoming faithless and unbelieving, as to essential religious truth," and says, "it is not so," and asserts that "there is growing up, to-day, a better and truer religious belief than the world has ever yet known." By this, he evidently means, not the plain truths of Scripture revelation, but some belief which he has not attempted to define, or explain, but, doubtless, from the strain of his remarks, and the tenor of his whole discourse, he means some system, or in truth, some floating notions, or suppositions, as to religious belief, corresponding with his own free thoughts, and those of Darwin, Tyndale, Huxley, Spenser, and the other before named opponents of true religious belief; and altogether independent of divine Scripture revelation.

(Continued on Second page.)

WILLIAM KENNEDY, M.D.