

historian of Methodism in Eastern British America, and in entering upon the quadrennium, as Editor of the *Wesleyan*, he has the prospect of making his weekly sheet a great power in the church. We wish all those brethren abundant success.

SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS' FUND.

Great interest was felt in the report of the Committee of this Fund. The brethren in the Maritime Provinces call theirs the Supernumerary Fund, and for 25 years they have paid all claims, giving each annuitant \$10 per year for every year of active service. The sum which they have invested yields a good return, while the amount of the ministers' subscription is \$10 per year.

For the last few years the Superannuated Ministers and Widows in the Western Conferences have not received the amount of their claims, by about \$70,000, so that it must be evident to the most cursory observer that something is needed to be done to give those worthy servants of the Church a better support in their declining years. How to increase the income seemed to be the great difficulty. It was ultimately agreed that an assessment should be made *pro rata* on the income of all circuits, to meet the deficiency which would exist after all the available income had been received. The ministers' subscriptions are also to be increased to \$12 a year, and a graduated scale of allowance to claimants was also adopted. The highest scale of payments in future is only to be \$10 per year for each year of effective labour.

No member can be a permanent claimant who has rendered less than 20 years' effective service. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the income of the fund may be much more largely increased, so that there may be no further diminution of the small claims paid to annuitants. It came out incidentally in the discussion that the late Rev. E. Morrow, M.A., had bequeathed \$5,000 to this fund. May many follow his noble example!

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

These are situated at Cobourg, Montreal, Sackville, and Stanstead; besides Ladies' Colleges, at Hamilton, and Whitby, there are also Ladies' Departments in connection with Sackville, and Stanstead. The reports presented to the Committee from those various Institutions, and their respective departments, were in many respects exceedingly gratifying. The number of pupils in attendance, and the number who have gone through the entire curriculum and have graduated, is far in excess of all former periods. The endowment of Victoria University is being increased. Dennis Moore, Esq. has lately endowed a chair with \$25,000, and John Macdonald, Esq., has promised \$10,000 toward the endowment of \$200,000. The Ryerson Chair has received promises to the amount of \$21,000.

In Montreal the friends are erecting buildings to cost \$31,500, every cent of which is subscribed, while there is an endowment also of \$33,000.

At Sackville there was a sad conflagration which destroyed the Male Academy, but nothing dispirited the friends are rebuilding, and have raised an endowment of \$50,000.

It is a noteworthy fact that the Ladies' Institutions, so far, are less encumbered than the others. That in Hamilton is without debt. 1200 young ladies have been taught within its walls, 167 of whom have graduated. The Ladies' Department at Sackville, besides paying expenses, has a surplus of \$1,000; and as this is the centenary year of Methodism in New Brunswick, the friends intend to establish a chair in the Theological Department, to bear the honoured name of the late Rev. John Black, who was the first Methodist Minister of the Province, and laid the foundation of the Church there.

METHODIST UNION.

"We have had days of pulling down, God grant that we may now have days of building up," so said the Rev. W. Arthur on one occasion.