

ORIGINAL POETRY.

AN EVENING REFLECTION.

Nature's wide Temple—heaven's stupendous arch Is lit around.—The angel of the night, Leads forth his millions on their noiseless march. Gathering from darkness round, their deep blue light; As diamonds in their mines—by contrast bright— Catch the quick eye,—scarcely notice'd in the day, So burning in their orbs,—vast stretch of light— The eye pursues them, when tir'd thought gives way, And fancy's bounding pulse o'erpower'd forgets to play. Oh glorious night! they do thee flagrant wrong Who call thee lonely.—On the sea-lash'd shore I stand, and hear old ocean's thunder-song, As hoarsely in thy blast the billows roar: The feeble voice of man is heard no more; Like bound half-check'd amid his noisy bay; Earth's altar fires are quenched; and stealing o'er The mighty scene, the stars regain their way Of their old vested rights—assur'd by the bright day. And such a Jubilee! there world with world Confounded, shouts the language of the skies; And arise from far-off space and darkness hurl'd, Stupendous thought! in awful grandeur rise; The central suns light up their radiant eyes, Which from his lofty watch-tower gleaming far; As satellite or sphere around him flies, And his strong central force controuls each star, That holds its well-mark'd course, through lonely space afar. Say, ye bright worlds, that on the wings of space, Urg'd by th' Eternal breath, pursue your flight, Coursers of flame—long practis'd in the race,— Where rests the world, where the last rays of light Throw their faint glimmerings on the gloom of night? Or like eternity, without a bound, Is space a mockery of the thought and sight, For ever seal'd, in its own depths profound And in that awful gloom, too deep for man to sound! Yet were your hosts once summon'd to survey, In this our world, a scene transcending far Aught that transpir'd when the first beam of day By God commission'd, sped from star to star? Ut lightning steeds harness'd to heaven's bright car, Lighting the void, ye saw him when he died, Who call'd the worlds from night's dark womb afar; Saw, when he felt the Roman spear and cried, "Tis finish'd," and pour'd forth the life-blood from his side. J. H. Fredericton, 26th } February, 1849 }

THE PRESS.

[WRITTEN FOR THE WESLEYAN BY A LADY.] By learned, and unlearned, this is understood, The Press is made a vehicle for good! And if for evil, good may counteract, And each misdeed may be met by fact. What were the Lore of ages? dead, not seen, But by the working of this mighty mean! Nor would the word of God—we speak with awe— Compass the world as one great general law, But for this given light, to shed its ray, And like the "Eastern star" to point the way. Then aid the Press,—in each attempt to mend, A mile of contribution speaks a friend. And where had been those streams of treasured knowledge, Dispensed in every age from School and College, But for this Engine, wielded long with skill, Proving the good, and still suppressing ill; Happy preponderance! it leads our youth Through paths of wisdom, to the springs of truth! Who love the truth, may patronize our pages And add their quota, to the Lore of ages. This paper carried out, it may be told, Will offer various matter, new and old.

Power of Personal Holiness.

Never will the Church meet her solemn responsibilities until her children, bursting asunder the shackles that bind them, and rising out of the slough of earthliness in which they are sunk, come up to that high measure of evangelical sanctification, which the voice of Scripture and the exigencies of a dying world alike demand of them. There is a moral omnipotence in holiness. Argument may be resisted, persuasion and entreaty may be scorned. The thrilling appeals and monitions of the pulpit, set forth with all the vigour of logic and all the force of eloquence, may be evaded or disregarded. But the exhibition of exalted piety has a might which nothing can withstand—it is truth embodied; it is the Gospel burning in the hearts, breathing from the lips, and preaching in the lives of its votaries. No sophistry can elude it, no conscience can ward it off; no boomer wear a mail that can resist the energy of its attack. It speaks in all languages, in all climes, and to all phases of our nature. It is universal, invincible; and clad in immortal panoply, goes on from victory to victory. Let Zion, through all her departments, but reach this elevated point, and how rapid and triumphant would be her progress! With what overpowering demonstration would her tidings be attended! What numerous and overflowing channels would pour into her treasury the requisite means; and what hosts of her consecrated

... would stand forth, to publish on every shore the mandates of her King! And how would the showers of divine influence be shed down, quickening into life the seeds which she scatters, filling the desolate places with verdure and joy, and changing this bright earth into the garden of the Lord!—Rev. Geo. B. Ide.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Original Matter is particularly requested for this Paper; such as, Local Intelligence—Biographies—Notices of the Introduction, rise, and progress of Methodism in Circuits, Revivals, and remarkable Conversions—Articles on education, temperance, literature, science, and religion—Illustrations of Providential Interpositions of Scripture characters—Interesting anecdotes—Descriptions of natural scenery—Papers on any prominent feature of Methodism, &c. &c. Articles, as a general rule, should be short and pithy; as a judicious variety in each number, is the secret of newspaper popularity and sustenance.

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE City of Fredericton, the Capital of New Brunswick, is built upon a tract of land formed by old deposits of the river St. John, about eighty miles from its junction with the Sea, at the provincial emporium to which it gives its name. The flat upon which it is built, extends about three miles in length, and is at the widest part nearly a mile in depth, from where it forms the sweeping bank of the river, to its connection with Maryland Hill. There it rises by a pretty long though not steep ascent, to a summit which is beautifully interspersed with Evergreens, Birch, Beech and Maple, the general growth of the lands in that neighbourhood.

The site of the embryo City was selected by General Carleton in 1785, and was upon the whole judiciously chosen; although some have thought that a situation ten or eleven miles further down, would have conduced more to the general interests of the Country.

Fredericton, from its earliest settlement to the present time, has been one of the principal lumbering stations in the province; but owing to this circumstance its real wealth has been of a fluctuating character; now, realizing the utmost hopes of its friends, and again, drinking deep of those sad reverses so prevalent in lumbering communities. There are five Churches in Fredericton owned respectively by the Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists and Roman Catholics; besides which, the first named communion have built a small but expensive Gothic Chapel, and are erecting a Cathedral at the instance of Bishop Medley, who is said to have contributed largely to its funds from his own private fortune. The Bishop is represented as an enthusiast in the Gothic style of Building, and has spared no pains to reintroduce old Architecture, as well as old Rubrics in his diocese. He is a strict observer of Lent, a stickler for the forms and ceremonies of the first age of Nominal Protestantism; and quotes the prayerbook frequently when his flock—or at least a great part of them—think he might with more propriety and profit refer them to the Holy Scriptures. In these views, naturally imported from Exeter, he is strongly opposed by a number of the older Clergy and the most influential Laymen of his own Church, but the younger Clergy are reported to be generally favourable to his wishes.

The Presbyterians have rather a limited congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Brooke, a gentleman who has rigidly adhered to the National Establishment of Scotland; but who has in consequence lost from his Church several influential members, who are conscientiously attached to the "Free Church" secession. The Methodist Church is supplied by the Rev. Mr. Knight, Chairman of the District; and attracts the largest congregations in the city, save those of the Roman Catholics. Most of the Merchants belong to this communion; and have been long esteemed for their kind and sociable disposition as men, as well as their unimpeachable commercial probity.

The Baptist Church is a handsome Building, erected a few years ago, and giving accommodation to a worthy though limited congregation.—The Rev. Samuel Elder, a native of Nova Scotia, is the officiating Minister.

Lastly, there is the Right Rev. Dr. Dollard, the Head of the Romish faith in New Brunswick, and the great ministering spirit in the Chapel of St. Dunstan. Some year or two ago, this Bishop had a flourishing diocese—certainly very strong in numerical strength; and not at all so stunted in means as some, who do not know the peculiar and easy methods of raising money in that Church, might imagine; but of late hundreds, perhaps thousands, of his people have gone away; partly induced by the badness of the times, and partly by the failure of a violent movement against their Protestant neighbours, in which they proved unsuccessful, owing to a counter organization and the vindication of the laws of the land in the courts of justice. It is, however, only justice to Dr. Dollard to state, that nobody suspects him of holding any views in common on this subject, with his misguided countrymen.

About a year ago, Fredericton received an Act of Incorporation from the Legislature;—and it is at present a double City, having been created an Ecclesiastical one, on the arrival of the English Bishop, who has adopted its name for his title.

Its Charter embraces a Mayor and nine Councillors, with a Common Clerk, and other officers.

Methodism in Fredericton is of no recent origin; and the fast hold which it has taken on the affections of the people, is frequently indicated in the benevolence with which they contribute to the cause of their missions, and the hospitality with which they sustain their ministers. Like others, some of the leading brethren of our Church there, have felt the hard pressure of the times; but the embarrassments under which they labour, are no more than common in the province at large; and their prospects of a favourable reaction, are we trust to be speedily realized.

[From our Correspondent at Fredericton.]

DEAR SIR,—Having been informed on good authority, that you have concluded to commence a Wesleyan paper in Halifax, I hasten to congratulate you, and also, to assure you, that you have the good wishes and prayers of a great many of our friends in both Provinces, for the successful prosecution of the work.

I hope our brethren in the Ministry will give you prompt and efficient aid in your arduous undertaking.

It may not be uninteresting to some of your readers to hear occasionally from this interesting part of the Province of N. B. Owing to a great many causes, some of a local and others of a general character, religion is not in so prosperous a condition, in this part of the province, as it was a few years ago; but the friends of Zion are not entirely discouraged. There are on this extensive river many pious people, and a large number attached to the institutions and doctrines of Wesleyan Methodism.

Considerable interest is felt by our friends in the cause of Foreign Missions, and although the extreme depression of trade has affected the contributions to this fund to some extent, yet numerous delightful proofs exist, that our people sympathise heartily with the efforts of the Committee at home, to extend their missionary operations to every part of the world. Having been engaged for the last few weeks, almost exclusively in attending Missionary meetings, I can speak with greater confidence on this subject, and am well convinced that with an improvement in trade, giving a more general ability than now exists, we will see a very considerable improvement in this department of our work. I have just returned from a tour up the river as far as Woodstock. The liberality of our friends in this very interesting village is well known, and their attendance at the missionary meeting was highly encouraging. Several interesting and edifying speeches were delivered by ministers and laymen, and a delightful Christian missionary spirit pervaded the meeting; and I have no doubt that the result will indicate increasing interest and liberality.

This village, not long since the scene of an unhappy disturbance, is now peaceful and orderly. The sun of commercial prosperity is beginning again to shed a few rays upon its enterprising inhabitants; their places of worship are neat, and I believe, generally well attended. When the breath of spring shall again reanimate our mountains and valleys, I may give your readers a description of the beautiful scenery on this part of the river. Apologizing for this hurried letter, I remain, yours &c. J. A. Fredericton, N. B. March 9, 1849.

[From our Correspondent at Sussex Vale, N. B.] REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

It affords me great pleasure to learn, that a Wesleyan Paper is about to commence its career of anticipated usefulness, and my earnest prayer is that it may prove a powerful auxiliary in the great and glorious work of spreading "Scriptural Holiness" throughout the length and breadth of these Provinces. The want of such a periodical has been a serious inconvenience and injury to us as a Church.

I long to welcome the Wesleyan to this Circuit, and hope to see its pages enriched by the Correspondence of our fellow helpers to the truth in every part of both Provinces.

As your Correspondent for Sussex Vale, Peticodiac, &c., I shall cheerfully try to communicate whatsoever is of interest of a religious nature. I shall therefore begin by giving a brief description of my present Circuit, so that your readers may have some idea of its religious features, to guide them while reading whatever may come from this quarter.

Sussex Vale circuit is the first scene of Wesleyan ministerial labour met with after leaving St. John, on the great Eastern Post Road. It was begun as a Circuit in 1827 by the Rev. Mr. Pickles, who was sent out from England by the Wes. Missy. Com.; and who has been followed by the following Ministers—Revs. Wm. Murray, J. F. Bent, Geo. Johnson, H. Daniel, W. C. Beals, Geo. M. Barratt, David Jennings, and W. Allen. For a number of years the minister travelled from Hammond River to the upper settlement in Sussex, on the Post Road, a distance of nearly 40 miles, and also visited various new settlements north and south. For some years past however the various preaching places on the Post Road have been given up, save one; the work having prospered more in the Settlements north and south of the Highway. At present we occupy the following Chapels, and preaching places. One in Pleasant Valley, half

a mile from the Post Road, capable of holding about 250 or 300 hearers; one on Smith's Creek, (in the Parish of Studholm,) capable of holding 400 hearers or upwards. Smith's Creek settlement is in a fertile vale running north eastwardly, containing a thrifty and numerous population. Our third Chapel is in Millstream Settlement, capable of holding about 300 hearers. This is also a thrifty and populous settlement, in the broad level valley formed by what is here known as Studholm's Millstream. Near the latter Chapel we have our new and convenient Mission House, finished last year.

The minister preaches also at the following Schoolhouses: one near Dr. Wilson's, in the Parish of Springfield; one in the Parish of Johnstone, three in Studholm, and in private houses in five other places. In connexion with each of the Chapels and other preaching places, we have one or more classes, containing in the aggregate at the last return, 240 regular members, and a few on trial. By this it will be seen that the average increase since the commencement of the Circuit has been 10 per year. During the last 8 years there has been an awakening in each year in one or other of the principal places, by which nearly a hundred members have been added to the Society. The above results of ministerial labour are somewhat cheering, especially considering the adverse influences with which the Wesleyan Ministers have been obliged to contend.—On the one side the people have been told that Wesleyan Ministers are "unauthorized teachers" and their revivals delusions; and on the other, that our preachers are "hirelings" and our people in "bondage!" Nevertheless, despite the opposing shouts of "Fanaticism," and "Bondage," the cause progresses; and more or less is given to the spread of the Gospel annually. Methodism, like the streams which flow quietly through the vales of this beautiful part of the country, pursues its onward course; if obstructed, wearing a channel in a softer soil, it presses onward, noiselessly bearing the weight of life, and blessing all who receive its Gospel Doctrines.—Like those streams receiving occasionally a teeming shower, a copious rain from Heaven, and sweeping away the obstacles lodged in its way, it flows onward, enriching with spiritual blessings all who dwell within, and around its borders.

But although we have great reason to rejoice over the measure of blessing which God has bestowed upon the labours of His servants, the cause of vital religion is not so prosperous throughout these parts as it ought to be, compared with the labour bestowed. There is a want of that enlargement of heart, and conscientious compliance with our admirable financial regulations, that a deep work produces; and which characterizes some of the Circuits in this District.—Still there is an improvement, and with the aid of some kind and right-minded office-bearers, whom the Lord has raised up among us, we live in strong expectation of the prosperity of the cause of Christ in every department of the work on the Circuit.

We have no longer the outward opposition from other Churches to contend with, which was met with formerly, at least not to the same extent; and we hope the day is not far distant when "Ephraim shall no longer envy Judah," &c.

During the present Methodistical year we have not been favoured with any particular revival, yet eight or ten have been added to the Church, and lately a good work has begun in one of the new settlements on the Millstream. Two persons, who have been some time seeking, have found peace, and others are awakened, and beginning to seek for mercy.

At the risk of being tedious I will refer to Hopewell where the Lord has poured out His Spirit, and turned a goodly number to himself. I have received letters from Bro. Allen at different times, in which he mentions the progress of the work. The first awakening began just before last Dist. Meeting at Salmon River, but was retarded while I was away attending the D. Meeting. A blessed work, however, broke out last autumn at a protracted meeting held by Bro. Allen at Harvey Chapel, and about 30 have been added to the Church as the result; and lately the work has again revived at Salmon River, and was progressing delightfully at the date of the last letters received from that quarter.

With kind regards, yours, &c., R. A. C. Sussex Vale, March 16th, 1849.

To the Editor of the Wesleyan.

REV. AND DEAR BROTHER,—Permit me to avail myself of a small space in your columns to remind the Ministers of this District that the Annual District Meeting will be held at Windsor on Thursday, the 7th of June, at 9 A. M., and to urge the importance of punctual attendance, and of due preparation to expedite the transaction of business.

The Superintendents of Circuits will have the goodness to prepare a detailed statement of the debts due on Chapels, or other Wesleyan property,—the parties to whom due, when contracted, when payable, the rate of interest, the security held, the income available toward the liquidation, and other information bearing on the state and prospects of our Trust-property.

Your truly, EPHRAIM EVANS, Halifax, 4th April, 1849. Ch'm'n N. S. Dist.

STANDING

Correspondents must send in a legible hand, and in the confidence, with the Editor holds not liable of correspondents claim rejecting articles offered Communications on his publications, when convenient, be written so that they may be so Communications and Every Editor, Halifax, N. S. The issue of the first week fortnightly, as per usual official sanction. Price 6s advance.

THE W

Halifax, Saturday

In commencing or be deemed desirable brevity, the reason present publication tend to pursue.

Our readers a which have been m shodists in this, an vince, to circulate a the purpose of diffu sion, and of giving esting matter bear ligion and morality refer to the "Nc BRUNSWICK WES GAZINE," "THE W TISH NORTH AM THODIST MAGAZI reason to believe, days, the means o

The latter worl intention of publis riodical under W more frequent mo ing been thought times in which we to meet the wants community. For now be mentioned ly paper has been condition of the 1 our own work, th requests of the m Congregations in urgent circumsta extensive and pr in this departm trated by us as Church,—call lo the resumption o answer at least a pioneer to the es per to be issued present undertak is however not w ceive the cordia and Members of less use their in due share of pul

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