

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, July 3, 1852.

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES AT THE WESLEYAN ACADEMY, MOUNT ALLISON.

The Anniversary Exercises of Sackville Academy were, as we learn from persons who were present, of an unusually interesting character. Knowing our readers feel a lively interest in the prosperity of this excellent and popular Institution, we have at some pains collected the following information.

The Annual Meeting of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES was held, according to the requirement of the Act of Incorporation, on Saturday, the 19th of last month. At this meeting, in addition to the transaction of the usual routine business, such arrangements were made for filling up the Board of Teachers as will insure, we have reason to believe, continued and even increased efficiency and thoroughness in all departments of the extensive course of instruction pledged to be pursued, and which has given universal satisfaction. The plan for the establishment of a BRANCH INSTITUTION FOR FEMALES, to which we have previously adverted, was carefully re-considered, and, with a slight modification of that part which concerns the sale of Scholarships, confirmed, and a Resolution to carry it into immediate operation, was unanimously adopted. To this important subject we shall, ere long, again refer.

On Monday, June 21, the ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the Students began at 9 o'clock, A.M., and was continued, with a short intermission at noon, until 5 o'clock, P.M. The Trustees, and several other friends of the Institution, were present throughout the day. In the English School Room, Classes were examined on Elementary Arithmetic, Geography, English Grammar, &c.; in the Mathematical Room, in Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Mensuration, &c., Surveying and Navigation, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy and Physiology; and in the Classical Room, in French, Latin and Greek, and also in Mental Philosophy and Ethics. Upwards of thirty Classes were examined, which, with scarcely an exception, afforded satisfactory evidence that both Students and Teachers had been devoting themselves to their respective duties with zeal, diligence, and success.

On Tuesday morning, the roads leading to Mount Allison presented an animated appearance. Carriages and pedestrians, in unusual numbers, seemed all to be converging to a common point—the front entrance to the Academy. Some time before the appointed hour, the spacious Lecture-Room of the Institution was well filled by those who had assembled to witness the closing Exercises, and afterwards, it became densely crowded; and many, who were unable to gain admission, remained in the Halls, and at the windows, attentively listening for two or three hours. The Exercises of the day commenced at 10 o'clock, and consisted of the rehearsal of appropriate selections for declamation by ten or twelve of the junior Students, followed by the delivery of Original Essays, &c., by five or six of the senior Students. These all evinced talent of a highly respectable character. The original pieces spoken by the young men were indicative of considerable power of thought, felicity of expression, and were richly imbued with the spirit of Christianity, and well delivered. After these, came the Address of the Rev. Dr. RICHEY, which was indeed worthy of the man and the occasion. It was, as might be expected from his established reputation as a public speaker, eloquent, interesting, instructive. We, on behalf of the readers of our paper, unite in the request which was made to Dr. RICHEY by the Trustees to give the Address to the public through the instrumentality of the press. After Dr. Richey had finished his Address, and the Principal had given the Students a few parting words of advice, in the course of which he alluded in a most feeling manner to the calamitous event which had almost immediately succeeded the recent Anniversary Exercises at the Sister Institution, Acadia College, and which had clothed that Institution and so many families in the habiliments of mourning, the Chaplain gave out a suitable hymn, which having been sung, the Rev. Mr. KNIGHT and the Rev. Dr. EVANS engaged in prayer, and the services in the Lecture-Room

were brought to a close by pronouncing the Apostolic Benediction.

At 2 o'clock the Trustees, and a large party of the parents of Students, and other friends of the Institution, dined with the Academic family in the Dining Hall, which, as well as the Lecture Room, had been most tastefully decorated by the young gentlemen with evergreens for the occasion. At the Table the ever-to-be-remembered FOUNDER of the Institution presided, and it was shown that, in this by no means unimportant part of the Establishment, the excellent Steward and Stewardess, Mr. and Mrs. TRUMAN, continued to be most successful in the discharge of the duties devolving upon them.

We are informed that the next Term will begin on Thursday, the 5th of August.

We hope this will be noticed by our friends throughout the Provinces, and that there will be a very full attendance of Students during the Academic year which will then commence.

Female Academy.

On Monday evening last a Meeting was held in the basement-room of the Brunswick Street Church, in reference to the Female Branch of the Institution at Sackville. Dr. Richey delivered an eloquent address; and was followed by the Rev. H. Pickard, A.M., Principal of Sackville Academy, who made a clear and satisfactory statement of the plan for the erection of the proposed edifice, by the sale of Scholarships and the donations of friends. Rev. R. Knight, and the Rev. Dr. Evans also addressed the Meeting.

As we intend to refer to this important matter more at length in a future number, we shall content ourselves for the present with merely stating that the Rev. Principal, and others interested in the enterprise, are much encouraged by the cheering success, which has attended the appeal made to the Halifax Wesleys in the sale of Scholarships. Should the favourable beginning made in this City be followed up in a similar spirit, by the friends in other parts of Nova Scotia, and the adjoining Provinces, the realization of the contemplated scheme will soon become matter of fact.

District Meetings.

The following RESOLUTIONS were unanimously passed at the late sittings of the District Meetings held in this city:—

REV. EPHRAIM EVANS, D.D.

The Brethren of the late Nova Scotia District cannot allow the present meeting of the combined Districts to terminate, without expressing their high respect, and deep christian veneration, for their late Chairman, the Rev. Ephraim Evans, D.D. His clear and lucid exposition of Gospel truth as a Theologian; the peculiar business tact that has constantly characterized him in the Chair, and by which he has to a great degree raised the finances of the District, together with his general kindness and urbanity of manners, have endeared him to the Brethren of the District; and this meeting desires the privilege of thus expressing its views to Doctor Evans, and of recording them in the Minutes, and that they also may be published in the *Wesleyan*, and also that a copy be sent to the *Watchman* newspaper.

REV. MATTHEW RICHEY, D.D.

The Brethren of the Nova Scotia Western District most cordially welcome the return to this Province of our much esteemed and highly honoured Brother, the Rev. Dr. Richey, and they regard his appointment as Chairman and General Superintendent of Missions in this District, as one which, under God, will tend greatly to advance the interests of Religion generally, and especially to promote the extension of Methodism.

THE WESLEYAN.

The brethren of this United District, impressed with the increasing excellence and usefulness of the *Wesleyan* newspaper, tender to the editor, the Rev. Dr. McLeod, their thanks for the ability and devotedness evinced by him in its management during the past year.

SACKVILLE ACADEMY.

The Report of the Committee of Sackville Academy having been read, the Brethren of the Nova Scotia Western and Nova Scotia Eastern Districts, cordially and unanimously resolve, that,—the said Report is exceedingly gratifying

and encouraging, affording pleasing proof of the continued popularity and usefulness of this valuable Institution in effecting the objects of its Founder. The Brethren also unanimously record the expression of their undiminished confidence in the Rev. Humphrey Pickard, A.M., Principal, to whose qualifications for his office the Institution has been mainly indebted for its usefulness and prosperity. They also earnestly recommend this Seminary as a seat of learning to the attention of the members of the Wesleyan community, and of the public generally, as in the highest degree worthy of their confidence, and as affording facilities for the secular and moral education of youth, equal to any other Educational Institution in the British North American Provinces.

Proposed Memoir of the late Rev. S. Busby.

We direct attention to the following communication:—

MY DEAR BROTHER,—I have lately been urgently requested to prepare for the "*Wesleyan*," some account of the life and labours of the late and much respected Rev. S. BUSBY. It will afford me great pleasure to do what is in my power towards accomplishing this desirable object, provided suitable and sufficient matter can be furnished. For a number of years back Mr. B has not made many entries in his journal. Any of his friends possessing letters of correspondence or original matter, bearing upon this subject, that will prove interesting to the numerous readers of your increasingly valuable periodical, by forwarding them to the writer, at the Wesleyan Mission House, Bridgetown, will aid in this undertaking, and confer a favour upon

Yours, &c., MICHAEL PICKLES.

Bridgetown, June 29, 1852.

Rev. R. Cooney, M. A.

The Rev. Robert Cooney, M. A., Wesleyan Methodist Minister, takes his departure this week for Milltown, where he is stationed for the ensuing year. The Rev. gentleman's ministrations in this District have proved very acceptable to the denomination of Christians to which he is attached, and the congregation of Milltown will no doubt be pleased to have a minister possessing so much talent and ability placed among them.—*New-Brunswick*, June 15.

The District Returns.

[We see a paragraph going the rounds of the papers, stating, on the authority of a London paper, whose character for truthfulness is damaged beyond all recovery, that the loss to the Wesleyan Societies, in the mother country, caused by the reckless and unscrupulous agitators of our Church, will be this year 60,000. For a corrective to this false representation, we refer to the following article from the *London Watchman*. We wonder if those who first put the above misrepresentation into circulation, and those who have copied it, will have the christian honour and heathen honesty, to publish the statement of the *Watchman*.]

We have received, through our Correspondents, —to one of whom in particular we beg to present our acknowledgements for great and disinterested labour,—the returns of the number of members in the several Wesleyan Districts in Britain, (with the exception of the Second South Wales District,) and we find that the total net decrease on the year, from March 1851 to March 1852, is 20,616; but that there are 13,112 persons on trial for membership. The decrease on the year is sufficiently large to excite painful feelings, but when we remember the amount of evil influences which has been brought to bear upon our societies,—and that too in almost every conceivable way,—as well as the systematic and vigorous efforts made to prolong an unrighteous agitation, we are in a measure surprised to find that the diminution is not larger.

From the gratifying intelligence which has reached us of late, from many parts of the Connection, we were led to believe, that, if the number for each Quarter, since March '51, were obtained, it would be found that the agitation, by which our people have been disturbed, was exhausting itself, and that our societies were beginning to recover from its unwholy and withering influence. And on a comparison of the Quarterly Returns we have not been disappointed in this respect; for we find that more than 18,000 of the total decrease belong to the three first Quarters.

If we take as an instance that District in which the numerical loss has been greatest—the London District,—we observe that the decrease on the respective quarters has continually diminished, and that on the last quarter it was only thirty-four. In eighteen Circuits of this District there has been an increase on the Quarter, and if the Hinde-street Circuit were omitted from the ac-

count, as an exceptional case, there would appear an increase on the Quarter of 138 members for the London District. The Districts of Bedford, Norwich, Guernsey, Devonport, Bath, Macclesfield, Liverpool, Leeds, Whitby and Darlington, in England; and the Districts of North Wales, Edinburgh, the Isle of Man, and Shetland, all show an increase upon the last Quarter.

To these facts must be added as a most cheering indication that there are 13,112 members now on trial. These are persons who have sought admission into our Societies between last December and March, and it is probable that already nearly all of them are fully accredited members. With such data before us, we think we may with humble confidence draw the conclusion, that not only has the downward tendency of our numerical returns been stayed, but also that the tide of spiritual prosperity is again beginning to flow.

In not less than thirteen Districts, an increase of numbers appears for the last quarter, whilst in some others, and they too among the more large and influential, the decrease is very trifling. And what is more encouraging still, the people, generally, are turning away their attention from those controversies,—which distract, but edify not,—to the all-important question, that of personal godliness; and, feeling how much they have suffered from listening to "evil communications," they seem to be on the point of disregarding the subjects of dispute, and seeking in place of them a rich outpouring of the HOLY SPIRIT.

Another thing which has greatly cheered us in our recent correspondence has been, the information we have obtained concerning the spirit of union, harmony and godly feeling, which has rested on our Ministers and Stewards assembled in the District Committees. The external storm has evidently driven them closer together; and one great resolution has possessed nearly every breast—to live and die unitedly seeking the honour and glory of God in the salvation of men.

A gentleman near Louisville, Kentucky, has applied the telegraph to an entirely novel and unique case. He has nearly completed an invention for writing music as it is played from the piano forte, the notes upon the sheet being produced as fast, and to the exact time, as the keys are touched by the performer. He has been offered, it is said, \$10,000 for the patent right when the model is finished.

Professor Huss, the first physician in Sweden, says the *Scientific American*, has just published an important book on the diseases of the Swedish people. He proves that the Swedes are rapidly deteriorating physically, as to stature and strength, and morally as to intellect and virtue, a state of things which he attributes principally to the enormous use of brandy in that country.

Theodore Hook was walking in the days of Warren's blacking, where one of the emissaries of that shining character had written on a wall, "Try Warren's B.," but had been frightened from his propriety and fled. "The rest is lacking," said Hook, almost before he saw it.

The late Hon. George Howland of New Bedford, has bequeathed fifty thousand dollars to establish a Female Seminary, and has also left it discretionary with his executor to bestow fifty thousand dollars more upon the institution, on the decease of his widow.

Washing the parts affected several times a day with Hufelane's formula, consisting of borax two parts, orange-flower and rosewater, of each fifteen parts, is said to be an excellent remedy for red spots so often seen on the faces of young persons, otherwise in good health.

The first Swedish railway is about to be commenced, running through Koping, Oreboro, and Hult, connecting the lakes Malaren and Wenern, and forming a part of a great trunk line between Stockholm and Guttenburg.

It is a fact worthy of being recorded, that, while so many perversions to Popery have taken place among the clergy of the Church of England, not one has occurred either among ministers of the Church of Scotland, or any of the dissenting bodies.

Bulls had arrived from Rome, appointing Dr. Cullen Archbishop of Dublin, and also Apostolic Administrator of Armagh till a successor is elected there.

On Sunday, June 6, twenty persons renounced the errors of Popery in the Church of St. Paul's, Bermondsey, London.