

CAMP MEETING.

The Methodists camping out near Holmesville—Good Accommodation—Large Audiences.

From the Clinton New Era. On Thursday last a Union Camp Meeting for all the circuits in the Goderich District, was commenced on the farm of Mr. J. H. Elford, at Holmesville. The spot was well chosen, for it is one equally suited for its attractions and accommodation. The grove is tolerably clear of underbrush, and has been well cleared. The tents enclose a place which seems to have been an auditorium by nature. The tents number over twenty, and look as if, Phoenix-like, a village had arisen in the woods. A good preacher's tent, preaching stand and choir gallery, have been combined in one, and there are besides the ordinary single and double tents, a large and well conducted boarding house tent and prayer meeting tent. In the evening the encampment has a weird and fairy like appearance. Beside the lights hung outside the tent doors, four large fire stands have been erected, upon which pyramidal fire columns blaze out their light and make the place quite comfortable for the evening services. Seating accommodation was made for the largest audiences, and in the committee acted wisely. We have heard no one complain of the arrangements made, and we doubt anyone could, for all concerned exerted themselves to the utmost to make the meeting a grand success. One very noticeable thing was the hospitality displayed by tent holders to casual visitors and the hearty welcome all received who went on the grounds. "What's the good of all this fuss," said a supercilious sojourner, one day last week, to a prominent camp meetinger, "where do you get your bible authority for this kind of going on?" "Is there nothing like this mentioned in the bible?" quietly asked the questioned one. "No," was the reply, "I have read it through and never found anything like this in it."

"You had better read it again," said the camp meeting friend, "and towards the close of the 23rd chap. of Leviticus, you will find some directions given by God to the Israelites to build and dwell in booths for seven days and 'to rejoice before the Lord their God.'" The reference there is, of course, to the feast appointed by God to be held on the 15th day of the seventh month—a Sabbath to a Sabbath—when the harvest had been gathered, in commemoration of Israel having dwelt in booths when brought up out of the land of Egypt. The fault finder was not disposed to argue the matter any further and left abruptly. The services commenced on Thursday last, the first sermon being preached by Rev. W. McDonagh, of Clinton, being followed by Rev. Mr. Birks, of Blyth, in evening. After an early prayer meeting on Friday morning, Rev. Mr. Smith, of Manchester, preached an excellent discourse, Rev. Messrs. Hamilton and Teske preached respectively in the afternoon and evening. Saturday was taken up with discourses from Rev. Messrs. Cook, Bayfield; Harris, Brussels; and Livingstone, Bayfield. At all these services the congregations were very fair, and there were indications of good being done. Sunday, however, was looked forward to as the great day of the meeting, and such it proved to be. A prayer meeting was held at nine o'clock, led by Rev. Mr. Hamilton. At 10 o'clock the first regular preaching service was held. A number of ministers took part in the opening exercises, and the Rev. Mr. Harris, of Brussels, preached from the words—

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him and saith 'Behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world'."—John 1. 29.

The immense congregation, now swelled to about 3,500, paid the greatest attention to a discourse which could not have failed to awaken much serious consideration. Immediately following, Rev. Mr. Livingstone led a short prayer meeting. The evening service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Harris, of Teeswater, who discoursed on Isaiah, 21—11-12. "Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, the morning cometh and also the night."

The day closed with several prayer meetings in the tents. The conduct of the large audiences was almost unexceptional. During the evening some young men and some that were not young, persisted in standing up and talking contrary to the wishes of those in authority, and much to the annoyance of those sitting around them. Only the intervention of some friends saved the participants from exposure before a magistrate. Monday's services commenced with a prayer meeting at 6 o'clock, followed by a conversational meeting on the subject of "appropriation of faith," led by Rev. Mr. McDonagh. This was one of the most interesting meetings so far held. The sermons during the day were preached by Revs. Messrs. Hadwin, London; L. O. Rice, and Brandon, Goderich.

Tuesday morning and afternoon were given up to a Temperance meeting, which proved to be of great interest. Rev. A. E. Edwards presided, and addresses upon the different phases of the question were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Harris, Walker, Rice, Hamilton, Birks and McDonagh. In the evening the regular services were continued. Rev. Mr. Caswell, Duncannon, preaching a powerful sermon on Matt. 16—26. "For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" A large congregation was present and the majority remained for the prayer

which followed. The first service on Wednesday morning was a 6 o'clock prayer meeting, followed by another at 9 and the regular preaching service at 10 o'clock. In the afternoon, Rev. Mr. Keefer, of Wingham, delivered an able and appropriate discourse. Rev. W. Birks, of Blyth, preached at the evening service.

Clinton.

Mr. E. Finch, of this place, has a grape vine that has on it ripe grapes, young grapes and several bunches of bloom; also a grape vine that was cut down within a foot of the ground, having been winter killed, which has shot forth from the stump, and now covers a space of 16 feet by 12, one branch being 21 feet long, with several bunches of bloom on it, all from this summer's growth.

Mr. Enus Hull, of this place, who was visiting his brother in Michigan, on the 3rd inst., was an unwilling witness of the fire raging in the woods there, (and which has since worked such terrible destruction.) His brother's property being in danger of destruction, they worked day and night, and by terrible work succeeded in saving the property, at the risk of their lives. Going with others to a neighbor's to render assistance, they found the wife lying dead on the road, and when placing her in a box for burial, it was necessary to break her arms and legs to get them in, so fearfully were they twisted by the fire.

Before leaving here last week with their car of horses just purchased, the Hon. F. Moore, Mayor of St. Clair, and John L. Morrison, of Detroit, spoke very highly of the quality of horses in this section, and were well satisfied with their purchases, as well as the treatment they met with from those with whom they had done business. Although they had been purchasing horses for the Michigan lumber woods for the past six or seven years they had never visited this section before, but did not intend it to be their last. They told Mr. Pike, at whose house they staid, they would be back, if possible during our fall show. —[New Era.

During the next term in the Cincinnati Public Schools technical grammar will be abolished from all the grades up to the fourth reader, and elementary lessons in English for home and school use will be substituted. The Superintendent says that he believes the time which has been devoted to grammar in the first five years of school has been practically wasted. One hour a week is to be given to literature in the schools, and a system of letter writing will be introduced in the two higher grades of the intermediate departments. It is rather astonishing that this discovery has not been made and practically acted upon in our Canadian schools before this. There are but few who do not believe that our present method of teaching Grammar is at least a very round about, if not a doubtful way of acquiring correct English.

Fall Shows in 1881.

South Huron, Exeter, Oct. 3. Central, at Guelph, Oct. 3 to 5. Central, at Hamilton, Oct. 4 to 7. East Wawanosh, Belgrave, Oct. 11. Morris, Blyth, Oct. 12. West Riding, at Goderich, on Wednesday, and Thursday, October 5th and 6th. East Riding, at Brussels, on Thursday and Friday, October 6th and 7th. Ashfield and Wawanosh Branch, at Duncannon, on Friday, the 7th of October.

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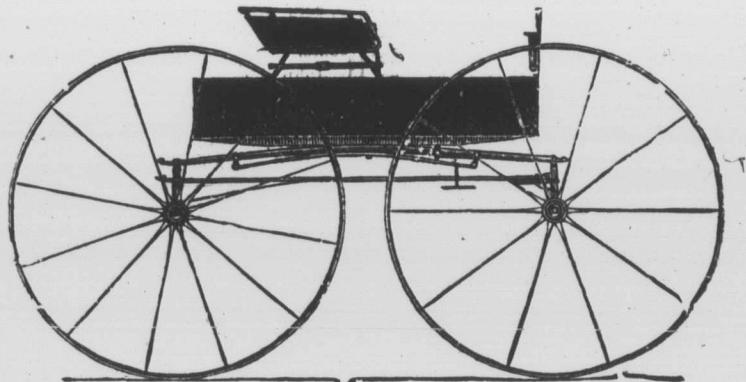
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