

THE WESLEYAN.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1879.

THE CAPTURE OF QUEBEC.

Within the last few weeks we have visited the Plains of Abraham, and have wandered over the famous field where Wolfe and Montcalm, one hundred and twenty years ago (1759), fought and fell; and where, by the capture of Quebec, the valour of Wolfe gave Canada to the British crown. The traditions, which are held by residents of Quebec, concerning the events of that memorable day are about as contradictory as the written records which historians have given to us. Another version, of the struggle that has made Quebec and its surroundings classic ground, may not be uninteresting.

On the twenty-sixth of June, 1759, an English fleet, with Admiral Saunders in command, anchored off the Island of Orleans, some ten or twelve miles below Quebec. General Wolfe was on board with an army. On the following day the troops marched to the West end of the Island, from whence they could see the town and its ironing battlements, a half dozen miles away. The French army of about 13,000 men, under the Marquis de Montcalm, was at Beauport, on the north-east shore of the river St. Lawrence, and nearly opposite the west end of the Island of Orleans. General Moncton, with four battalions of English soldiers, occupied the heights of Levis, on the eastern side of the St. Lawrence, and opposite Quebec.

In July, Moncton bombarded the town, and laid it almost entirely in ruins. About the same time Wolfe landed at Beauport, below the River Montmorenci, and on the thirty-first of July attacked the French. Wolfe was defeated, losing one hundred and eighty two men and having six hundred wounded, and retreated to the Island.

In the rear of the town and citadel of Quebec is an open country, called the Plains of Abraham. The Plains extend a little over a mile, from the River St. Lawrence on the one side to the River St. Charles on the other, and about the same distance southward from the town and citadel. The surface of the Plains is slightly broken in the portion nearest the citadel, and occasionally there are dimples here and there in other parts of the field. In the time of Wolfe those Plains were houseless, and almost entirely treeless; and were an admirable scene for a brilliant battle. Wolfe determined to get possession of the heights, and bring on an engagement with the French, if possible, at the very gates of the citadel.

On the night of the 12th of September, he embarked with four thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight men. A considerable proportion of his men were provincialists of New England, who knew well how to face an Indian in warfare, or any other enemy; and among his men were also a large number of Scottish Highlanders, who knew how without flinching to face the muskets of a foe.

The expedition left the Island about midnight, in thirty barges, taking with them one four pounder field piece. The young moon had gone down. The night was dark. The water was smooth. They rowed past the town and fortress with muffled oars. Their passage up the river was unnoticed by the sentinels on the shore, and on the fortress, until one of the last of the barges was going by. A sentinel then challenged the passing boat, and being misled by a reply from an Indian in the barge, allowed the stealthy rowers to proceed without further interference.

The landing of the army was cautiously effected at Wolfe's cove, near the upper part of the Plains. Capt. McDonald led the first portion of the army that scaled the heights. He was soon assailed by a French sentinel, who demanded, in the darkness: "Qui Vive?" The English had learned the watchword of the night from a deserter. "La France," replied Capt. McDonald. And in a moment the guard was overpowered. When the sun arose, on the morning of the thirtieth of September, Wolfe's army had taken possession of the heights.

Wolfe sent an order by one of his men a few days before, directed to a prominent officer of his army, for the purpose of misleading Montcalm. The order indicated that Wolfe purposed immediately to land at Beauport and bring on an engagement there, or assault the city from the Beauport side. The messenger to whom the order was given was directed to put himself in a position to be captured. He was made a prisoner by the French. The order was found on his person. Montcalm, deceived thereby, had nearly all his army, on the morning of the thirtieth, at Beauport, expecting the approach of Wolfe from that direction.

In the early dawn a courier, galloping on horseback, carried the tidings to Montcalm, that Wolfe was on the Plains of Abraham. Montcalm called his men to arms. In a short time he had crossed the St. Charles, by its bridge of boats, and was in consultation with his leading officers in

a small house on the south corner of Garden and St. Louis sts. in Quebec, and opposite the St. Louis hotel. They determined to give battle immediately to Wolfe. By nine o'clock in the morning Montcalm's army of seven thousand five hundred men had crossed the bridge of boats, and had passed through the St. John's and St. Louis gates, and were taking up their position on the Plains.

Wolfe's army was drawn up with its right flank nearest the St. Lawrence and facing the approaches to the Plains from the St. Charles river. Wolfe was on the right: Generals Howe and Townsend on the left. About ten o'clock Montcalm's army approached with two field pieces, and discharging their musketry into the long, thin, red line that awaited their coming. When the two armies had come within forty yards of each other, Wolfe ordered his men to fire. The first volley thinned terribly the front line of Montcalm's men. Both armies were now in sharp and fierce encounter, in every part of the field.

Wolfe received a ball in the wrist. He bound up the bleeding wrist with a handkerchief and urged on his men. In a few moments more he received another bullet wound in his side; and still he remained at his post. In another minute, or so, he received a third bullet, which pierced his breast. He was assisted to the spot where now his monument stands. As he was sinking into death, the French lines were being pierced by a bayonet charge of the British; and, broken, and discomfited, they fled. An attendant said to the dying General: "See! they run!" "Who run," said Wolfe. "The enemy, sir, they give way everywhere," said the attendant. "What! already!" said Wolfe, "now, God be praised, I die content." Within five and twenty minutes after the firing of the first shot the battle was fought and won.

Montcalm, also, was fatally wounded; and was carried to a drug store, that was then kept where now stands the City Hall of Quebec. He died there after midnight. Montcalm was buried in the Ursuline Convent, Quebec; Wolfe, in Westminster Abbey, England. Four days after the battle—on the eighteenth of September—Quebec was surrendered to the English. In the articles of capitulation England, generously guaranteed to the conquered French, for all time, their civil law, their language, and their religion. There is every reason to assume that if Montcalm had remained in the fortress, he could successfully have defied the power of Wolfe. Men, therefore, charge Montcalm with folly in venturing an engagement with Wolfe, when he was under no apparent necessity to fight. But, why charge the gallant Montcalm with folly? Was there not a divinity in this struggle, shaping the destinies of an unborn nation, and of coming generations?

DANIEL DREW.

Daniel Drew who died recently in New York has been one of the most famous Wall Street brokers of this century. He was a farmer's son, born in New York State, and died at the age of eighty-two. In early life he was a cattle drover, having New York city for his selling point. He was the first person who drove cattle across the Alleghany Mountains to New York. His business involved great exposure and fatigue. He was equal to the position; and successful in his adventures. He went into the steamboat business in 1834, and owned and managed, for many years, a considerable number of the best steamers on Long Island Sound, and Hudson River. He entered Wall Street in 1844, and soon became its boldest and shrewdest operator. He ranked in wealth among the foremost of the millionaires of the age.

Mr. Drew was a Methodist, and a lover of Methodist institutions. He has been sometimes, as a Wall Street man, severely censured. He was, however, as spotless, probably, as any of the Wall Street fraternity. Though he ardently loved the excitement of making money, he never wasted it on himself. He used it for good causes, and with a liberal hand. He built a fine church at Carmel, and another at Brewsters. He gave a quarter of a million of dollars for the founding of a Seminary for Young Women at Carmel, New York; and a hundred thousand dollars for the Wesleyan University at Middletown; three quarters of a million dollars to the Methodist Theological Seminary; and also, other princely sums.

Mr. Drew, finally met serious adverses, and became comparatively poor. Nearly all his vast possessions slipped away from him at last. Though his calamities were a serious trial, he sought in the sanctuary the incorruptible riches of Christ. He became a devout and earnest christian. How often comes to us the lesson that this world's riches are held by the possessor, by only a feeble tenure. He only is permanently rich who has made God his treasury. What Mr. Drew gave for the cause of God he saved: what he reserved for himself he lost.

HALIFAX BUSINESS COLLEGE.

We would direct attention to the advertisement, in another column, of the Halifax Business College. This valuable institution has been in operation for the past twelve years, nearly the whole time under the management of the present senior partner in the firm of Frazee & Whiston. We had lately the pleasure of looking through the College and were much pleased with the beautiful airy rooms, and the tasteful manner in which they are fitted up, as well as the admirable arrangements made for teaching to advantage the subjects which are made specialties in their system. The object aimed at is, as will be seen by their advertisement, to fit their pupils to perform well their part as members of the business community, by making them thoroughly acquainted with those branches of education which all business men who attain success must sooner or later learn.

The Writing department is under the charge of Mr. Whiston who is so well known as an accomplished penman that little need be said here. The College is decorated with beautiful specimens of his art, which visitors at the Exhibition in this city this week, have had an opportunity of inspecting.

Mr. Frazee takes special charge of the subject of Arithmetic, and his thorough acquaintance with the science, and especially with its practical application to matters of commerce, makes his instruction of very great value to those who intend to follow commercial pursuits.

But the main feature is the teaching of Bookkeeping, Banking, and the methods of transacting business. For this purpose a Bank of issue, deposit, and discount is established, and in constant operation, deriving its business from the students engaged as merchants with one another, who enter in properly prepared books a strict account of all their transactions. This part of the course is extremely novel and interesting, and the lessons make vivid and lasting impressions on the minds of the students.

Altogether we think the Halifax Business College is one of our best educational institutions, and one which eminently deserves the success which has marked its history. We have much pleasure in commending it to our readers.

AFGHANISTAN.

The massacre of the English Envoy to the court of Yakoob Khan, Major Cavagnari, and several of the members of his staff and escort has awakened a sensation everywhere among the English people. The Afghan tribes, inspired by national hate, rose in mutiny, and inflicted this outrage upon their unfortunate victims.

Afghanistan lies between the Oxus river on the north, the Khyder Pass on the south, and the Himalaya Mountains on the east, in Central Asia. It contains about 5,000,000 inhabitants, of Moslem tribes. The Afghans are a warlike people; brave, cunning, and cruel. Their country is mountainous, with snow covered peaks, fertile valleys, productive fields, and walled cities. The famous city of Cabul is in the midst of a beautiful plain on the banks of the river Cabul; and is one of the best fortified places in Central Asia. The Afghans defy the power of England on the south, and of Russia on the north.

England will be under the necessity of conquering and governing the Afghans and their native land. To do so will be a matter of gold, of valour, of blood, and of time. The quarrel between England and Afghanistan is some forty years old. Twice the English battalions have overrun that country, without, however, permanently taking possession of the soil. Already the armies of England are astrid. She has 22,000 British soldiers, and 118,000 native soldiers, within comparatively easy reach of Afghanistan. That England will conquer that country scarcely admits of a doubt. She will carry evangelical christianity and progressive civilization into the midst of that Moslem people. As she has been a blessing to India, and other countries, in promoting civilization, and extending the knowledge of the world's Redeemer, so, also, we may hope, will she be a blessing to the Moslem millions of Afghanistan.

Francis D. Moulton, who played such a conspicuous part in the Beecher-Tilton trial, in Brooklyn, about a half a dozen years ago, as the "Mutual Friend" has been suspended from the Produce Exchange, for conduct "inconsistent with the just and equitable principles of trade." He was a remarkably sharp and keen manipulator in the interests of Tilton, and displayed peculiar abilities in the witness box. Many who supposed Moulton's conduct, in relation to Beecher, was "inconsistent with the just and equitable principles of right" will not be surprised at the recent decision of the Produce Exchange.

THE NOVA SCOTIA EXHIBITION.

The Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of 1879 was opened in this city on Tuesday, September 30. His Honor Lieut. Governor Archibald arrived at the building about 2.30 p.m., and was received with a guard of honor by the 97th Regiment and the 66th Militia Infantry. The attendance within the building, and without, was not very large.

Mayor Tobin delivered the opening speech of the day, and was followed by Col. Laurie, the Lieut. Governor, and Hon. S. H. Holmes.

The building in which the Exhibition has been held has been built during the present season, and at a cost of about \$15,000. The main building is 231 feet in length by 102 feet in width at the ends, and 82 feet in width elsewhere. There is what is called the "front building," attached to the main building, and in front of the middle portion of it. The "front building" is 51 feet square for two stories in height, and from thence forms an octagonal tower 92 feet high, surmounted by a 40 foot flag pole. The "front building" contains the main entrance, or hall, and five commodious offices. There are three spacious galleries with commodious stairways leading to them. The building presents a very fine appearance, and is a credit to the city.

The Agricultural and Industrial display, without and within the building, fairly represented the capability of our soil, and the industry of our people.

The weather on the opening days of the exhibition was all that could be desired.

Some thousands of strangers from all parts of the province, and a few from elsewhere, have crowded our hotels, and thronged our streets, during the week.

WESTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.

The new branch of the Western Counties Railway from Yarmouth to Digby was opened on Saturday the 27th ult. On Monday the 29th, at 8.25 a.m., a special excursion train left Yarmouth for Halifax. The road between Digby and Annapolis is not yet finished. Between those two points the excursionists were conveyed by steamer. The distance from Yarmouth to Digby by rail is sixty-seven miles; from Digby to Annapolis by water seventeen miles; and from Annapolis to Halifax by rail one hundred and twenty-nine miles.

Daily trains (Sundays excepted) will be run over the road. The residents of Yarmouth, Digby, and the intermediate places, as well as the travelling public generally, are to be congratulated on the completion of this important line.

Sir John A. McDonald who has recently returned from England has brought with him to Canada five practical farmers, who are to act as the agents and representatives of some of their friends and neighbors who contemplate emigrating to this country, if the reports of those agents shall be satisfactory. This is a step in the right direction, and may help to turn the tide of British emigration in this direction.

CHARLES STREET, HALIFAX.—At the close of the Sabbath School last Sabbath afternoon, a meeting of Teachers and Senior Scholars was held for the purpose of bidding "good-bye" to one of the Teachers—Mr. H. McPhail—who is about to leave the Province. After singing and prayer, J. Wesley Smith, Esq., Superintendent, on behalf of the teachers, presented Bro. M. with a "Teachers' Bible," wishing him a safe journey and every success in his new home. It may be added that Bro. McPhail has been a teacher in the School for five years, and during that time has only been absent one Sabbath.

PERSONALS.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. Rev. W. H. Hertz, who since her return from her European tour, has been seriously ill at Lower Horton, is now convalescent.

Many of the friends of Rev. John Waterhouse, now in England, and formerly a member of the Conference of Eastern British America, will be pleased to read the following extract from a letter recently received from him, and dated, Skipton, 23rd August.

I am now settled and happy in my English work. All things considered—I have spent three happy years in my present circuit. In less than a fortnight from the present date I shall be removing to my new sphere. The conference have entrusted me with the superintendency of the *Lower Bridge* Circuit. I shall have two colleagues—both married men. The present membership of the circuit is over a thousand. I am hoping to see good days—days of the *Son of Man* with power. The darkness which at present, and which for some time past—has been lowering over the various industries of this country, is to us, a source of great anxiety and distress. The church feels the depression. Whether a change of government, to which we are looking forward, is for trade and commerce, the required desideratum, as *Liberal* politicians affirm—well, we have to say the least, our *Hopes*.

By your permission, I would like to send greetings to all the brethren who are your yoke-fellows in the gospel of Christ, laboring within the bounds of the three Eastern Conferences. May God bless and prosper you all.

REV. GEORGE H. BRYANT.

We regret to have to announce the receipt of intelligence, by the last Newfoundland mail, of the death of Rev. Geo. H. Bryant, one of the junior ministers of the Newfoundland Conference. Mr. Bryant entered the ministry in 1873. He was at the time of his decease a resident of Old Perlican, and a superannuated.

Rev. William Swann, superintendent of the Old Perlican circuit, has kindly furnished the following obituary:

The Methodist cemetery at Old Perlican is rich in the remains of the sainted dead. Side by side within its precincts sleep the Rev. Thomas Gaetz, who, at the age of 28 years, finished a brief, but, we believe, zealous and successful ministerial career. Mrs. Fox, the beloved and respected wife of the Rev. Thomas Fox, who, in all matters affecting the spiritual welfare of the people of his charge, was an helpmeet to her husband on all the circuits which they occupied, is also buried there. To these is now added the Rev. George H. Bryant, who, in the vigour of early manhood, has been smitten down by disease, and removed, as we confidently hope, from sharing life's toils and conflicts, to the rest and reward of the Lord's blessed ones. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Brother Bryant was a native of Cornwall, England. Both his parents were members of the Methodist Society. First Primitive Methodists, and then Wesleyans. His father was for many years a local preacher, and so remained till the time of his death, a few months ago; hence our brother had the advantage of godly training and example. At the age of seventeen, or about then, he was converted during a revival of religion in the chapel which he attended. He began immediately, we believe, to work for God as a Sabbath School teacher, a part of the church's work in which he evinced a deep interest and took an active part to the end of his public life. He chose as his calling that of a day-school teacher, in preparation for which, after passing through the usual curriculum of pupil teachership, he was sent to the Wesleyan Training College at Westminster then under the principleship of the late Rev. John Scott. During his college course, or shortly after its close, he began the work of preaching the Gospel, first as a local preacher, then as a circuit missionary, and lastly as a minister in connection with the Newfoundland Methodist Conference. During his illness, he remarked—I am thankful to know that I have not laboured in vain. Both in England and in this country, I have seen many souls converted under my preaching. He referred to a service conducted by him in England, at which he had the joy of seeing fourteen persons kneel at the communion rail as penitents, eleven of whom found peace with God before the service closed.

Along with his now bereaved wife and two sorrowing children, he came to this Island about six years ago as a candidate for our ministry. His first appointment was Green's Harbor Mission, a small settlement which had not previously had a resident minister. He laboured there three successive years with much zeal, fidelity, and success. At the close of his ministry there, he made the following entry in his journal: "I find considerable increase in every department of our work, for which I now render 'praise to God.' Sabbath School last year membership, 45, this year 58; last year, 29, with 47 on trial this year 73, with 29 on trial. Truly I have not laboured in vain, nor spent my strength for naught."

His second and last appointment was Old Perlican, where, as on his former circuit, he had reason to bless God for the success of his work. Many remain in our classes to whom he was a spiritual father. The first year of his ministry here was one of special grace and converting power. Many, both young and aged, were converted, and by far the greater number of them continue steadfastly walking in the way of the Lord, and we trust that hereafter they will meet the honoured instrument of their salvation in the better land.

Shortly after the Conference of 1878 the strength of our dear brother began to fail; he, however, struggled against weakness until December, when he was compelled to desist from public labour. Henceforward until Sept. 16th, he lingered out the closing months of his life. He bore his sufferings patiently, hoping sometimes that he would be restored, but always resigned to the Divine will. His end was peace. Life ebbed out gradually, and his soul, without an apparent struggle, escaped from the worn emaciated body which had been so long the subject of disease. Shortly before his death we presented to him and joined with him in partaking of the emblems of the Saviour's death, preparatory in his case, as we thought then, and now believe, to an immediate communion with Christ, and the church of the glorified. To our inquiry—Is all right? he replied, "I have not the shadow of a doubt. God will not forsake me now." We refrain from adding more. His record is on high, and with the church below.

A sorrowing widow and five small children are left to mourn their loss. Left to share the warm sympathy and generous aid of christian friends.

These bereaved ones shall abide beneath the shadow of the Almighty and in Him they will find relief.

Sept. 22, 1879.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

The Transcript.—The first number of *The Transcript*, a weekly newspaper, has been issued from its office of publication, Sackville, N.B., during the past week. It is printed from good type, and on good paper, and looks well. The price is only \$1.00 a year. It ought to find many subscribers especially in Westmorland, and the adjoining counties. We wish this new enterprise large success.