

requires a dagger or a bullet to kill a man... the man slander, the contemptuous scorn, may be met and the reputation will be saved and life saved.

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1866

Mount Allison Anniversary.

We are relieved from the necessity of preparing any extended notice of the Anniversary exercises of Mount Allison College and Academy, and of the interesting services connected therewith, an esteemed correspondent having kindly favoured us with a report of the proceedings.

The Sabbath services were greatly edifying. In the morning a truly excellent and profitable discourse was preached by the Rev. John Lathrop upon Gen. xxxii. 24-26, and the Anniversary Sermon in the evening by the Rev. Geo. Scott, upon Jer. ix. 23-24, was a lucid exposition, abounding in mature thought and richly evangelical sentiment, and was highly appropriate to the occasion.

The examination of the various classes was attended by the Examining Committee and by the visitors with much carefulness, and was in a high degree satisfactory. More than ordinary interest was attached to some of the public exhibitions, while the Orations by the College Students and Graduates were really good, evincing very creditable proficiency, and giving promise of honour and usefulness in the appointed sphere of life in which these young gentlemen may severally move.

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Death of the Rev. Wm. Smithson.

Another veteran Minister of Christ has been called to his reward. The intelligence reached us a few days since that our much esteemed brother, the Rev. Wm. Smithson, had been suddenly removed. This was quite unexpected, as from his comparative vigour, there was reason to suppose that Mr. Smithson might be spared yet to the Church and to his family for many years.

But the Master has been best not to allow his faithful servant longer to remain amid the buffeting of this life. Mr. Smithson's ministerial career commenced in 1825, his first Circuit being in the Shelburne Islands. After two years spent in the home work, he came to New Brunswick in 1827, since which time he has been stationed at the following places in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, viz. Sheffield, St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Mill Town, Westmorland, St. John, Annapolis, Bridgetown, Carleton Place, and Newport.

Several of which places he was twice appointed, and on all of them exerted as a useful and devoted Minister of the Gospel. During his three years residence in Newport, he was Chairman of the Halifax District, the duties of which office he laboured to discharge with fidelity and acceptance. After forty years of active labour, he at the last Conference sought a Supernatural position, deeming it wise to do so before he became quite disabled for service. He was accordingly put down as Supernumerary at the next year, but during his few months residence there, has rendered good service to the Church. He preached in Fredericton on Sunday, 13th inst. On Monday evening, 14th inst., while attending a prayer meeting, he was seized with paralysis, and on the following morning, at a few minutes past ten, he breathed his last. His death will be lamented by very many friends in both Provinces who cherish the memory of his life.

Mr. Smithson's ambition through life was to live and die a faithful and useful Methodist Minister, and his aim was assuredly reached. The fathers of the church are passing away; may their sons and successors in the Gospel emulate their zeal, their holiness, and their success in winning souls for Christ.

Our Conference of 1866.

No. II.

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For the support of our work in most of the rural parts of these colonies and for its wider extension, our "Contingent and Home Mission Fund" is absolutely indispensable. In the first of the years under our notice the amount contributed by the circuits for this object was one hundred dollars, ninety-nine cents more than in the last year. This was due in part to the increase of charges upon circuits by the amount of uncollected moneys, and the expenditure rendered necessary for their houses and furniture. It seems necessary for the balances due to ministers in 1865 after the expenditure of the whole of this Fund was nearly five thousand dollars. It will be obviously impossible for these Funds to bear the stress which the progress of time will inevitably bring upon them unless they be steadily increased from year to year. With reasonable and proper management in the observance of the rules for securing the current income of the funds, it will be in most circuits be accomplished without injury to any local interest.

What progress our Connection has made in the building of Churches and Parsonages the published Minutes do not inform us. Further particulars will be collected from this time and tabulated for publication in the schedules adopted by the next regular Conference. Very much good has been effected by the money paid to Trustees by the "Parsonage Aid Society" thereby houses for our Ministers have been secured on Circuits where there were none a few years since, and some old Parsonages have been materially improved. Should the Conference as it is proposed make a Grant from the Jubilee Fund to the Parsonage Aid Committee, they will be enabled further to liberalize the Rules of their administration, and perhaps to secure every circuit that may need assistance in providing a house for the minister and his family. He will then feel at liberty to yield fully to the impulsive yearning spirit of his office, and give himself wholly "to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

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In Saint John there is a numerous Wesleyan population. Including Portland, they have six spacious churches. The public religious services will be largely attended. The President being from England will draw others to our services besides the regular members of the ministry of the word—the "love-feast"—the ordination of perhaps twelve ministers—depends on an influence that is not of earth, and a power that is not of man. No preaching is effectual to the conversion and sanctification of souls, but that which is clothed with the Holy Spirit's energy. This is given in answer to the prayers of the pleading church. Let this be remembered and acted upon, then to the joy of the church the word shall be with power. Confessors, wherever they are, should sound an alarm. Formalists shall wake up from their sleep of self-satisfaction. There shall be joy in heaven over real accessions to the saved. We all desire these results. What hinders our working for them. The promise is clear; the covenant is sure; ye shall receive, seek, and ye shall find.

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May, 1866.

The Sackville Institutions.

THE ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES.

Of Mount Allison College and Academy took place according to previous announcement, Thursday and Friday, 10th and 11th inst., were devoted to the examination of the College classes. The students were subjected to an oral and also a written examination in all the branches pursued during the last term of the Collegiate year. In addition to this, the members of the graduating class were required to review, under the direction of the Examining Committee, the studies embraced in the whole College curriculum. The result, as reported by the Committee, was more than usually satisfactory; and six young gentlemen, whose names will be given hereafter, were recommended as worthy to receive the first degree, *gradum Baccalaureatus artium*.

The Anniversary sermon was preached in Lingley Hall by our honoured visitor, the President designate of the Conference, the Rev. G. Scott. It was a clear and forcible exposition of Jer. ix. 23-24, and was admirably suited to the occasion. The crowded audience listened very attentively, as the distinguished preacher showed that neither wisdom, nor might, nor riches, can satisfy the wants of our spiritual nature; and that only this which will meet these wants is to know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent.

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May, 1866.

RE-LAYING THE CORNER STONE.

The exercises at the site of the new building were commenced by singing the 126th hymn, "Except the Lord conduct the plan" &c. which, at the request of the President of the Conference, was given out by the Rev. John Snowball. A portion of scripture suitable to the occasion was read by the Rev. A. W. Nicolson, and prayer offered by the Rev. John Lathrop. The President of the Conference made some introductory remarks, referring to the principal events in the history of our Educational Institutions, and called upon the Rev. Principal present for further statements. The Rev. Dr. Pickard announced the success which had attended the appeal to the public for funds to re-erect the Academy. Nearly \$10,000 has already been subscribed. Forty gentlemen had promised \$1000 each. He was more encouraged in the cause of Education since the configuration, then he had been for many years, on account of the prompt and liberal response given to the application for aid. Dr. Pickard then addressed by presenting to the Rev. George Scott, an elegant silver trowel bearing the following inscription:—

"Presented by the Officers and Students of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, Sack-

ville, New Brunswick, to the Rev. George Scott, on the occasion of his re-laying the corner stone of this Institution, May 10, 1866.

The Rev. George Scott, having announced the several documents deposited in the box to be placed upon the stone, two verses of the 130th psalm commencing,

"Thou who hast in Zion laid the foundation stone," were sung, when the stone, placed in its position, was pronounced to be laid in the name of the Holy Trinity. The principal address of the occasion was then delivered, the substance of which we furnish.

Dr. Scott said:—We must all be forcibly reminded by the circumstances in which we are placed today, of a passage in the book of Ezra, 3rd chap. 10 to 13 verses; "And when the builders laid the foundation," &c. &c. I am sure there are those here to-day who look back to the laying of the corner-stone of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, twenty-six years ago, with mingled feelings. There is here at least one representative of the noble founder of the Institution, who must witness with sorrow and joy these proceedings of the present hour.

As the day is not yet upon us, the sacredness of such feelings, further than by this reference. While there is much to be regretted in connection with the calamity which destroyed the former structure, there is nevertheless much cause for joy. As God was in the bush which Moses saw, and the bush was not burned; so God is seen in this event, and though there is a burning there is not a Consumption. The building is rising again from its ashes, new and more commodious. We acknowledge God in this disaster, we bow in submission to his will; but can we not see a purpose in the very visitation? No chastening for the present seemeth to us, but all rejoicing inasmuch as we know that after it is finished the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. One benefit from this is that the interest of the Institution will be removed in part at least from one honoured name, and supported by Methodists in general, and by the people connected with the Conference by the American. There is a disposition within us to lean on some munificent servant of God, and I may suppose many here said, "Mr. Allison has done all; we need do nothing." God guided him in his action, now he is taken from us, and the responsibility is thrown on all. I am sure Methodist and Methodist will not be recreant to the trust. I am sure the interests of the Institution will be nobly sustained. We know what followed the calamity at Saratoga, which laid Carey's printing establishment in ruins. Till then no one cared for the mission in India; but it was not so afterwards. The sympathy of the English people were aroused, and the mission was rendered more effective. My confidence is that the same will be the case in connection with this calamity. 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