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Rev. A. W. NICOLSON. Published under the direction of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada Editor and Publisher.

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WESLEYAN BOOK ROOM, 125 GRANVILLE STREET, M.S. HALIFAX,

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A SPECIAL DISCOUNT

(From the Baltimore Gazette.) A TRIBUTE LEAF.

Robert A. McLeod, who died in Algiers, Africa, March 3rd, was the third son of the Rev. Dr. A. W. McLeod, of this city. His career, brief, but brilliant, has a sad ending. He distinguished himself, when a mere boy, in the defense of Fort Sumpter, and lost his right arm in the last battle before Richmond. Debarred thus from active employment, he entered Harvard University, and graduated in 1869 with the highest honor.

His fair life record, sadly brief, We read through diming tears, Ended while yet we numbered o'er, Laurels for coming years.

In days gone by we watched and feared, When news of battle came, Lest we should find amidst the lost, With heroes dead-his name.

The conflict o'er weary and worn, Homeward he came once more, A badge of honour, he had won, An empty sleeve he wore. Undaunted in life's toilsome march, The brave young feet pressed on,

Trophies of pen, as well as sword, In other fields he won. To watching eyes, from o'er the sea, Bright missions often came, With pencilings of beauty rare,

A little while—when the dear hand Full wearily laid down, The life-work, with its busy plans And proud hopes of renown Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. Are all that's left to fame-A lonely grave, in far Algiers,

An age, a date, a name. Alas for Lore, if this were all But through the far unknown, Faith's eye discerns with vision clear. The "rainbow round the throne.

GEORGIA HULSE McLEOD.

THE LATE REV. F. PENNY, A.M.

The Rev. William F. Penny died at Liverpool, March 24th, aged 30 years. He was a native of Carbonear, New foundland. In reference to his conversion and religious experience he wrote in his diary :- " From my youth I have been under religious influences and impressions. The sudden death of a brother led me to seek the Lord. For some time I did not enjoy peace with God. There was awakenment without enlightenment. For some time after I found, at Sackville, the peace which my soul longed for. By degrees my mind became more and more enlightened. A desire to save souls became more prominent." After graduation at Sackville College he entered the Conference of E. B. A. His first appointment was to the St. James Circuit, N.B. Of this work he wrote:- " My call to the ministry was not a voice from heaven, saying "Preach or die," but I felt that it was just as positive and effectual. Providence opened the way at every step, and 1 was led by God's Spirit." His next appointment was to the Parrsborough Circuit, from which he was sent as a supply to Richibucto, N.B. At the end of that year he went to Boston University, from which Institution, at the end of a three years course, he graduated, B.D. Last year he came to the Milton mission. From the beginning of his work here, his strength gradually failed. About the middle of February he had to give up his work, though he feared no fatal result to his sickness. In a rapid decline he continuued till March 24th, when he peacefully died. He had no fear of death. He entered with a fervent spirit into the sacramental service, when I administered the Lord's Supper to him, and also when Bro. Addy, at another time did the same. He expressed his confidence in Christ, as resting on the atonement, and said once to me; "Repeat some of the promises to me." I asked him at my last visit, a few hours before his death; "Are you trust-

ing in Christ." He replied "I am." So

calmly he passed away from his work,

only just begun, to the rest of heaven.

OUR SUPERNUMERARY FUND.

ARTICLE I.—(Continued.)

THE SUPERNUMERARIES.

Comparing the claimants we find that the proportion of supernumeraries is about the same in each-nine per cent of men, and half that number of widows. But here a wide difference manifests itself. From the longer term of service in the Eastern Conferences we would naturally expect larger claims in propertion to numbers; but the contrary is the case The Western men seem to be claimants for nearly the fullest possible amountthe Eastern for less than two-thirds. As a result, our Fund can do much better with its present claimants than the Western one; paying 12 2-5.10th against 9.10th, or about 40 per cent more. On the other hand if our 28 men and the widows were claimants for their full term of service, the Western would exceed ours in ability to pay in the proportion of 8.81 to 7.05, per year, or about 25 per cent. In other words it could pay as much as we could (\$7.05) and have a surplus of over \$6,000.

The explanation of this seeming incongruity, as we understand it, is, that our Fund being recently formed, the older men, being most of them claimants, upon the English Funds were indifferent concerning ours, or unable to pay up the arrearages for their full term. Some indeed are not, we believe claimants upon the Fund at all. This condition obtains only to a very small extent, probably, not at all, in the Western work. Even with us it a condition that must soon pass away. In fifteen or twenty years at most our if there should be no increase of the number of supernumeraries there will be a great increase of claims. We see then the ground upon which the Treasurer of the Fund, although always reporting a surplus, persistently urges upon the Conferences the necessity of securing the more active co-operation of our laity. It pays its debt now, but it will not in the future, unless there shall be an increase in the income from this source.

There is a point, however, which w must notice here. We have said that if the two funds and two lists of Supernu meraries should remain relatively the same until our men become full claimants, the Western Fund could pay as much as ours and have a surplus of over \$6, 000. This statement needs to be largely modified, as will be seen from a consideration of the following facts. It is known that all our men, however short their term of service, who are laid aside, are claimants upon our fund. Not so in the West. They have two classes; the supernumerary who have no claim upon the Fund; and the superannuated ministers who have claims. We have hitherto been treating of the latter class alone. It is evident however, that we must, in order to make a fair comparison, either add this supernumerary class on the one side, or, subtract a proportionate number on the other. Calculating then the claims of 35 supernumeraries at former rates, we find them to aggregate \$5390.00 annually. If to this we add the five per cent. reserved from regular income to be added to capital stock, (\$1,258.50,) which, although it increases future efficiency must always be considered a claim, we see that the advantage, if any, will still remain with the Eastern Fund.

Now, as we have given figures and explanations enough to enable any one who will patiently examine the subject to test the accuracy of our conclusions, we will sum them up about as follows :-

(1.) Our fund is in the best position in view of present claims, excelling the other, even leaving out Supernumeraries in the West, in the proportion of 12.40 to 8.98. (2.) Including supernumeraries and five

per cent. reserve, which seems to be the only fair method of estimating, it exceeds it in the proportion of 12.40 to 7.53. (3.) This advantage will gradually disappear as our men come more fully upon

the fund, until, eventually, the Western fund will become nearly or quite as strong as the Eastern one; and thus they will (4.) This last conclusion rests upon the

assumption that the two funds and lists of claimants remain relatively the same. Should this not be the case the conclusion would of course need to be modified Consequently, a consideration of the fuof heaven.

J. SHENTON.

J. SHENTON.

J. SHENTON.

J. SHENTON.

any permament injustice upon either section of the work. To the future then we how this grant, at least, in any thing like direct our attention.

We may close this article with the simple remark that all who have followed us thoughtfully thus far, whatever may be their differences upon other points, will agree in this-that we have great cause of thankfulness for the possession of two so noble funds, doing a work so important in the financial economy of our Church. and, in hoping, that the prudent management and liberality which have made them so efficient hitherto, may avail to make them even more efficient in the future; that thus they may continue a strong and sure staff to the aged pilgrim, as on his heavenward way, he totters down to the River of Death.

ARTICLE IL.

In seeking to determine the future reative efficiency of the two funds we will look, 1st, at the probable income, and 2nd at the probable claims.

In reference to Income it will be remembered that in order to preserve their position relative to each other it will be necessary for the Western fund to increase four times as fast as the Eastern one, or strictly speaking in the proportion of \$30,920.71 to \$7,652.19. Looking at the matter carefully it seems very doubtful whether this can be accomplished; or whether indeed, much more than half this can reasonably be looked for. A glance at the items will show our grounds for this

probably come up to the mark-the payments being in proportion to the The same may be said perhaps of the Book Rooms; or, if there would not probably be four times the increase it may at least be able to pay four times as large an amount. There remains then, the three items of Endowment, Circuits and Missionary Grant.

We do not think that the Endowment Fund of the West will be likely to increase four times as rapidly as ours. It has been 40 years accumulating \$48,000. ours has reached \$63,000 in 22 years. The Western has its 5 per cent reserve, but this would need to be four times larger to be a proportionate equivalent to our surplus. It is more reliable of course. Any speculations in reference to the future must of necessity be mainly guesswork; but, if we put the two funds alike at \$90,000 each, 15 years hence, it will be admitted perhaps, considering the accession to ours during the present year, and that, at last Conference we were \$15,000 ahead, that we can probably attain that figure with the least difficulty.

2nd. It is true that in reference to circuit receipts we make a poor show beside our Western brethren But in this very fact lies our advantage. Our laity is not less generous than that of the West, but it has never had the pressure of present necessity brought to bear upon it. The one is a fertile field, cropped already to its full capacity-the other a field not less fertile, but from which as yet only the spontaneous product has been gathered. A flourishing surplus is a poor stick with which to stir up the generosity of any people. If the necessity arises it is fair to assume that they will be as generous in response in proportion to ability as in the West. If we measure this ability by the contributions to the missionary cause we find that it will give us 131 cents per member as against 1545 with them. In order to be safe we will put ours at 10 cts. per member assuming that even with modest pressure we can more easily reach that figure than they can retain theirs in its present position. If it be said that there will probably be a larger increase in membership in the West than with us, we may perhaps grant it, but it will not better the position of this fund. It will necessitate also an increase of ministers and consequently of claims without a corresponding increase of income in the other items. We put the increase of members and ministers at 331 per cent in both sections of the work.

3rd No one we suppose expects any proportionate increase in the missionary grant, especially if this increase should be large. It is not we believe reckoned by the treasurers, among the regular sources of income at all. This we think purity and industry.

how this grant, at least, in any thing like its present proportions, can be continued The necessity is very great, we know, but it is not good financial policy for a man who cannot pay his own debts, to undertake to pay the debts of his neighbor. Of the heavy burden which at the end of the present year will be crippling the energies of the Missionary Society about \$22,-000, we understand what has been incurred by grants to this fund. It is defended, it is true, upon the plea of missionary support, and if it could be shown that legitimate claims of this kind would at all equal the grant made we do not see but that the defence would be good. So far as our imperfect knowledge extends, however, there do not seem to be grounds for supposing this. This may be taking an extreme view of the case but we do not feel satisfied to assign to this source more than one half the present grant. even for 15 years hence. Summing up these items the comparison would stand as follows :-

East Con. West Con. Capital stock 15 years hence \$90,000.00 \$90,000.00 Interest at 6 per cent 5,400.00 5,400.00
Min. Sub. 33 1-3 pr. ct increase 2,576.30 9,400.00
Circuit Sub. at 10 and 15 4-5 19,780.69 3.000.00 2,500.00 40,084.69 cents. 33 1-3 increas Book Room Mission Board Total Income

Per cent. of increase According to this estimate the Western fund if its necessities remain the same will be able to count on an increase during the next 15 years of 29½ per cent., whilst ours with less pressure may calculate on 561, or nearly double as much.

To put it in another form we may take the claims upon the Western fund for last year, and add to this its reserve claim, (\$1.258.50.) its incidental expenses (\$1,-019.75); and its supernumeraries as distinguished from superannuates (\$5.390). We find the total to be \$42,088. 5. On We may pass by the item of min- the other hand the \$6,178.55 represents isterial subscription as this will all the expenses and claims of our fund -a point to which we did not refer in former calculations,-consequently at the time indicated it would seem that the Eastern fund will be better able to bear twice its present burden, than the Western one will be to support fully a charge equal to the claims now made upon it.

Of course our estimates are only approx imations, and any one can alter them who thinks he knows better. But we believe that but little change can rightly be made to the prejudices of our fund unless it may be in the matter of missionary grants. We leave that for the consideration of those who are in a position to examine it now fally than we can.

BOOK NOTICES

We have just received from the publisher, T. Y. Crowell, New York, the following admirable books for notice. We may say that the books now issued and which may be issued from time to time, by this publishing house, are to be kept on sale at the Book Room. We make a specialty of these publications for the reasons that they are pure in matter, handsome and strong in execution, and the cheapest we have been able to obtain. Mr. Crowell furnishes us with books for Sunday School Libraries, stitched with wire, illustrated York, we have Philip Brooks' Grand copiously and exceedingly neat in appearance. They are, moreover, nearly as cheap as the ordinary kind. They are, in our market, nearly all new

These books enclosed for editorial

Favourite Poets, 450 pages, with index. Price \$1. Gilt \$1.25. The selections are taken from all the favourite poets, and extending over a great area. Those exquisite gems which are destined to live always, are beautifully provided on clear type and excellent

Burns' Poems is a handsome volume, miform with the Favourite Poets. The same publisher furnishes a set of sixteen of the best poets complete, uni form, in strong, handsome binding, which may be furnished at the Book Room at 80 cents per volume.

Margaret's Old Home, is a charming story for Sabbath scholars, a book of 360 pages. Of prize books, we have Father Merrill, to which was awarded \$500. by the offer of Rev. J. P. Warren, D. D., "for the best manuscript of a Sunday School book." Words and Deeds, and Two Families, of the Prize Series. These books number about 400 pages each, and are of the kind to stimulate our young people toward Room, as we have obtained terms ex.

From Adam Miller & Co., we have the following School Books:

Elements of Geometry, containing Books I to VI., and portions of Books XI. and XII. of Euclid, with Exercises and Notes, by J. Haliburton Smith, M. A. Canadian copy-right edition.

English Grammar, by W. Houston, M. A. Twenty-fourth edition.

Book Keeping, by Single and Double Entry, designed for use in the public and high schools, by S. G. Beatty, and S. Clare, both in high positions as

Elementary Algebra, by J. Hamblin, with appendix by Alfred Baker, B.A., of the Toronto University.

A Treatise on Arithmetic, by the same author, and adapted to Canadian Schools. by competent scientific and educational

All the above have been authorized by the Minister of Education for Ontario, and seem admirably adapted for public schools.

How to Read; a Drill Book, for the cultivation of the speaking voice, and for correct and expressive reading, is also adapted for the use of schools, aud authorized. This text book opens the way to a study which has been too long and too much neglected. The book is a fine epitome of principles for

Health in the House, twenty-five lectures on Elementary Philosophy, &c., delivered to the wives and children of workingmen in Leeds and Saltaire, by Catherine M. Buckton, is also adopted in Ontario as a school book. This is its ninth edition. As a source of information on subjects of vital importance in health and domestic economy, this book excels anything we have seen.

From D. Lothrop & Co., we have-

Concessions of Liberalists to Orthodoxu by Rev. D. Dorchester, D.D. Mr. Dorchester is a Presiding Elder in the New England Conference: "a strong man" in the estimation of those who know him well. He has culled "concessions" from the writings of Freethinkers in a wide range, and out of their own mouths he condemns them. The thanks of the Faculty of the School of Theology of Boston University were tendered the author for the work, and they expressed the opinion that these Lectures should be repeated before the Schools of Theology.

From E. P. Dutton & Co., New Lectures before the Divinity School of Yale College, already noticed by us.

Farrar's Eternal Hope, the celebrated Sermons delivered in Westminster Abbey. They will show that reports published of his discourses did him some injustice. Yet, throughout, the sermons are more an expression of "Hope" as to the future of the impenitent than an argument from Scripture. Readers, however, can find here for themselves what Farrar did sav.

A New Testament Commentary For English Readers, the first volume of which, covering the four Gospels, has been sent to us, is to be completed in three volumes at \$6.00 each vol.

This Commentary is intended to take new ground-to meet modern doubts as to the authority of Scripture, and to help that much larger class who desire more fully to realize and to understand. having no doubts. From our opportunities of examining the work, it seems a clear, scholarly exposition of the Scriptures. The comments are crisp and concise, yet full of meaning. This first volume is a handsome book.

To any one desirous of obtaining the volumes as they come out, we can offer unusual facilities through the Book ceptionably favourable.