

party they can do what they please; they can abolish Class Meetings, as was once attempted by the modest Doctor, alter the Discipline and Doctrines of the church; and the community will have no alternative, but to withdraw as private individuals and find rest in some other Evangelical branch of the Church of Christ. What is the organ of the Conference about, that it either cannot, or dare not answer to the serious charges, brought against the Conference? If this silence continues a little longer, the verdict of the membership, and of the whole people of Canada, will be one of unqualified condemnation against the Conference. Not to be misunderstood with reference to the party intended by the word Conference, we mean the ruling power in that body, which, at most, does not exceed nine persons. By no means do we intend the majority of upright and spiritually minded men, who are too seriously devoted to their work to be a match for the political, ambitious, and, we fear, sinister minded few. That majority is the hope of the Methodist Church at this critical time, and if they do their duty all will be well.

We are aware that we have already been misrepresented as to our intentions in issuing this publication. Perhaps from announcing that we should continue it for six months to await the decision of the next Conference, we have given some appearance of reality to the notion, that if *then* we failed in our object, we should make a division in the church. We repeat, our object is not division; we have no reason to have such an object, so far from it that the whole church will shortly rise and protest with us against the abuse of power by the leaders of the Conference, and admit that our objects are conservative of Methodism, while those who oppose us are ensuring its destruction.

The communication from our esteemed correspondent at Cobourg is hereby acknowledged. We cannot insert it entire at present, but we shall reply to the main question therein put and inform him that the Memorial from the official members of the Toronto City Station, sent to the Conference held in Brockville in June last, was the result of an official meeting in the most accurate sense of the word.

On that occasion the Chairman of the District, and Superintendent of the Circuit, and now the Secretary of the Conference presided, all which offices are held by the Rev. H. Wilkinson. He further gave it his sanction by suggesting the Postscript himself. This we hope is enough to meet the unexpected and groundless assertion that the Memorial in question possesses no official character.

Missionary Collections.—The letter, signed "A Subscriber," is excluded for want of space, but we reply to its questions. We regret to say, that it is too true that the Missionary Money is being appropriated towards the Salaries of Chancellors of Districts. We believe such appropriation to be neither agreeable to the usage and discipline of the Church nor to good policy. As to the third question, "Whether such an appropriation is announced from the Missionary platform when the collections are made?" we reply, we do not know. On this the honesty of the transaction depends. The people ought, surely, to know on such occasions whether they are contributing

to ordinary funerals or supporting Missionaries to the Aborigines and destitute settlers.

The Methodist Establishment.—A few days ago, a special messenger from the College at Cobourg, came to require the immediate attendance of Mr. John Ryerson at the Seat of Government in order to secure the grant to Victoria College, as there was a danger of losing it for want of an influential person there. We are at a loss to know why the President of the Conference was not sent, perhaps none but a Ryerson would be influential. Such is the employment of Methodist Preachers, and such the reward of the Doctor's labours in politics.

Wesleyan and Episcopal Methodists.—The Baltimore Sun gives the following account of a secession from the Methodist Episcopal Church that has taken place, which is now organized under the title of Wesleyan Methodists. They held the first general Conference at Cleveland a short time since, and remained in session nine days. The principal points of difference between the two bodies are, 1. The Wesleyans admit laymen as members to their annual and general conferences,—the Episcopal Methodists exclude them entirely. 2. Among the Wesleyans the people are permitted to some extent to elect their ministers; among the Episcopal Methodists they are appointed by the Bishops. 3. The Wesleyans have no bishops. Their rules require all members to adopt the principles of anti-slavery, and not to use or traffic in ardent spirits. They are about to establish a paper and a book concern in the city of New York; and the True Wesleyan a paper which has hitherto been published by the Rev. O. Scott, is to be transferred to New York.—*New York Weekly Sun.*

THE TREE IS KNOWN BY ITS FRUIT, OR THE STREAMS SHOW WHAT THE FOUNTAIN IS:—

THE TREE

The Seizure of Messrs. Smith's Distillery.—The seizure by direction of her Majesty's Commissioners of Excise, of the extensive distillery and rectifying-house, outbuildings, plant, &c., of Messrs. Smith, of Whitechapel, has been carried into effect by four chief examiners of excise, aided by several inferior officers. This further step has not only created a great sensation amongst the numerous tavern-keepers and proprietors of spirit establishments in the metropolis and suburbs, but has also given rise to much conversation in the commercial and monetary circles. From the best information that can be obtained upon the subject, it appears, that in consequence of the Excise Commissioners having for some time past suspected—upon what grounds have not transpired beyond the firm retailing spirits at a superior strength and lower price than other distillers—that Messrs. Smith, have not been in the habit of accounting for the full amount of duty payable upon their stock, the Board of Excise ordered that a most vigilant watch should be kept upon their establishments. For some time past, an excise officer had been appointed to be constantly upon the premises, and the workmen of Messrs. Smith were forbidden to hold any communication with him on pain of dismissal. The first step adopted against the firm was about three months since, when the Excise seized twenty puncheons of gin, and conveyed them to the government stores in Broad-Street; but upon the subsequent representations of Messrs. Smith, the Commissioners ordered fifteen of the number, with their contents, to be returned. The remaining five were retained for the purposes of ulterior proceedings. In the meantime, reports were from time to time made to the Commissioners of the operations carried forward at the distillery and rectifying house, and consultations were held by the legal advisers of the Board with the Solicitor-General and other eminent members of the bar, which led to the determination on the part of the Commissioners to have recourse to energetic and decisive measures. The details of the legal conferences have not been suffered to transpire, and in all probability will not reach the public eye until the whole matter comes on for public hearing before the Barons of the Court of Exchequer. The object, however, which the Commissioners had in view, may be gathered from the fact that officers and others had been employed to dig up the paving stones around Messrs. Smith's extensive premises, and pipes have been discovered concealed about three feet from the surface of the earth, connecting the distillery with the rectifying-house, which is contrary to the provisions of the various Acts of Parliament regulating such matters. The Commissioners having ordered a complete stoppage of the works, the distillery now presents a gloomy and wretched contrast, to the active bustling scene which it presented when in working order, and the deep trenches dug out in front and around it, exposing the objectionable pipes to view, are objects daily of increased public attention. The loss to the firm, by the stoppage of the works, must be a severe one, and Messrs. Smith have been in the habit of paying to Government for duty alone, between £3,000,000

and £4,000,000 per annum. Every portion of the monster establishment has had the broad arrow affixed to it, and not a cask, waggon, or utensil has escaped the same mark of condemnation at the excise-man's hands. Above sixty workmen, it was stated, were discharged on Saturday night last, making the number, including those dismissed on the previous week, above 120 now out of employment. Messrs. Smith have mentioned the Lords of the Treasury on the subject, their Lordships' reply is looked for with great interest. The buildings alone are estimated to be of the value of £100,000, and should the Board of Excise succeed in the Court of Exchequer, in recovering the enormous penalties for which the firm are being prosecuted, the whole of this valuable property will fall into the hands of the Crown, and a rich harvest will be reaped by the officers who have assisted in promoting the proceedings. In any event, Messrs. Smith will be put to very heavy expenses in resisting the Crown prosecutions.

THE FRUIT.

A Victim of Gin.—A wretched woman, named Ann Navy, the unfortunate victim of gin, was brought before the Lord Mayor of London, on Thursday, charged with having attempted to strangle herself with her bonnet strings. Thomas Balchin (city policeman) stated, that on Wednesday, having been informed that a female had attempted to destroy herself at the corner of Widgegate street, Bishopsgate, he found the prisoner black in the face in consequence of having tried to strangle herself with her bonnet ribbons. When she recovered from her insensibility, she said she had made the attempt because she had murdered her mother. The agony of her mind was so intense as completely to damage her intellect. She was placed under the judicious care of Mr. Macmurdo, who signified in a note to the Lord Mayor, that when she was first conveyed to the Compter, she acted in the most violent manner, and it was absolutely necessary to force the victuals down her throat; that she had since become more calm, but was very weak; and that her condition was attributable to excessive drinking. The Lord Mayor: what are you, prisoner? The prisoner:—I have no home, but I have been employed in the book business, in Jewin-present. The Lord Mayor: What did you mean by saying you had murdered your mother?—The prisoner:—I consider that I did murder her. I broke her heart by my wickedness. That's murder. The Lord Mayor: When did she die? The prisoner:—One day last week, in Bishopsgate Union Workhouse. The Lord Mayor:—Are you sure that if I send to the Workhouse, I shall be informed of her death?—The prisoner: Certainly. There is no doubt of her death, and I was the cause of it, I was so wicked. The Lord Mayor, in what respect were you wicked? The prisoner: By drinking.—The Lord Mayor: Have you a father, or brothers, or sisters?—The prisoner: No, they are all dead. The last person I lived with was my sister, who has died since. She was obliged to turn me out on account of my dreadful propensity. The Lord Mayor: How do you know she is dead? The prisoner: I heard so. She lived in Red Lion Court, Fleet Street. I have been the cause of dreadful misery.—The Lord Mayor: Have you ever received parish relief?—The prisoner: Never. I have been able to support myself by book work, in which I have been regularly brought up.

The Earliest Living Creatures on Earth.

—And what were those creatures? It well might be with a kind of awe that the uninstructed inquirer would wait for an answer to this question. But nature is simpler, than man's will would make her, and behold the interrogation only brings before us the unpretending forms of various zoophytes and polypes, together with a few single and double-valved shell-fish (mollusks), all of them creatures of the sea. It is rather surprising to find these before any vegetable forms considering that vegetables appear to us as forming the necessary first link in the chain of nutrition; but it is probable that there were sea plants, and also some simpler forms of animal life, before this period, although too slight a substance to have any fossil trace of their existence.—*Natural History of Creation.*

The Mind of Man.—We have faculties in full force and activity, which the animals either possess not at all, or in so low and obscure a form as to be equivalent to non-existence. Now these parts of mind are those which connect us with the things which are not of this world. We have veneration prompting us to the Worship of the Deity, which the animals lack. We have hope to carry us on in thought beyond the bounds of time. We have reason, to enable us to inquire into the character of the Great Father, and the relation of us, his humble creatures towards him. We have conscientiousness and benevolence, by which we can, in a faint and humble measure imitate in our conduct, that which he exemplifies in the whole of his wondrous doings. Beyond this, mental science does not carry us in support of religion: the rest depends on evidence of a different kind. But it is surely much that we thus discover in nature a provision for things so important. The existence of faculties having a regard to such things is a good evidence that such things exist. The face of God is reflected in the organization of man, as a little pool reflects the glorious sun.—*Id.*