

Provincial Wesleyan

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FORWARD IN ADVANCE. Having a large and increasing circulation in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, New Fundland and Bermuda, as an Advertising medium it has, in these Provinces, no equal.

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Religious Miscellany

SPRING.

"When the Spring awakes, when the earth is covered with tender green, and the song of happiness is heard in every shrub, it is a call to us to religious hope and joy. Over the infant year the breath of heaven seems to blow with paternal softness, and the heart of man willingly partakes of the joys of a renovated nature." - A. W. N.

Welcome Spring is come again, Bringing beauty in her train; Driving back the reign of death, Breathing life in every vein.

Bolting waves from the earth, Hastening hither to the birth; Seeds are springing from their tomb, Beds are bursting into bloom.

Marching in his heavenly way, Warmer shines, "the King of day;" Nature in his lustre gleams, Drinking gladness from his beams.

Free from winter's icy bands, Trees and rivers 'clap their hands; Brook and rill repeat their play, Dancing in the sparkling ray.

Boisterous winds are prone to sleep, Calmness sits upon the deep; Oceans wave alive'd o'er, Gently ripple to the shore.

Fleecy clouds are floating high, In the soft and tranquil sky, Crystal lakes unwept by storms, Mirror back those heavenly forms.

Mount and vale are robed in light, Scenes of grandeur charm the sight; Flocks and herds are fill'd with life, Roaming, gamboling o'er the lea.

Man in jollity is his toil, Till the rich and yielding soil, Scattering wide the precious grain, Hoping soon to reap again.

Grassland flowers spring to birth, Fresh adorning "mother earth;" God roves'd, and deck'd with grace, Nature waves a smiling face.

Plant and shrub their sweets disclose, Bud and blossom as the rose; Life in all its forms awakes, Universal joy partakes.

Sounds of gladness fill the air, Bidding hence the sigh of care, Earth and heaven, and rolling main, Welcome back sweet Spring again.

Hark! The birds are full of song, Singing, singing, all day long, Bay tributes to the "King of Spring, Hailing welcome, welcome Spring.

From the N. Y. Methodist. BERMUDA: ITS RELIGIOUS CONDITION.

By A. Outerbridge, M. D. Bermuda is a group of islands situated about 770 miles Southeast from Sandy Hook, three days sail from New York by steamer. There are numerous islands, over three hundred, not more than twelve of which are inhabited. We enjoy a climate of perpetual spring, the thermometer ranges from 60° to 85°.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church (here termed a chapel, and society by some) was first established here about sixty years ago by the Rev. Mr. Stephenson of Exeter. It was persecuted by the authorities and imprisoned for several months in the common jail for preaching Methodist doctrines, and his health suffered much in consequence he was obliged to leave for his home. The good seed planted by his hand has, under divine care, continued to grow despite every persecution, and the cause of Methodism has flourished here.

We have four ministers from the Eastern British North American Conference, and one from the Western Conference. Our church in St. George's is the finest we have in the islands, and under the pastorate of the Rev. T. Watson Smith, of Nova Scotia, has flourished during the past three years. A revival of religion is now blessing his labors, the influence of which has extended to members of the Episcopal Church, and a new converted and upwards of twenty members experienced the blessing of sanctification; and the good work is still going on. I pray that it may spread throughout our islands, and that every member of our church may be blessed and edified thereby.

Our church in Hamilton Parish, of which the Rev. A. R. B. Shewsbury, of England, is pastor, is a new building, recently erected. Our membership is in a growing condition. Several young people have joined our church of late, and we are now making efforts to clear of debt, and we are present indebtedness (amounting to \$600) by holding bazaars, etc.

Hamilton Circuit is under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Cassidy, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Tyler, of England. Our ministers are rather conservative, and yet our members are steadily increasing. Many of our colored members who wish to join the B. M. E. Church have returned to their old church again, and a revival influence appears to pervade our churches throughout the islands, and

by the aid of the religious press they are brought into the midst of the world's reformers.

We speak here no more of our own than of other parts. The religious press is a power in the land, and a very wholesome power. The associates one has in this field of Christian work one may well be proud of. Let our pastors give heed and see to it that the hosts of converts now in their formative stage are supplied with good religious newspapers.—M. H.

COMES.—During a religious awakening in a factory village some time ago, a foreman was awakened, but could not find peace. His superior sent him a letter, requesting him to call at six o'clock. Promptly he came. "I see you believe me," said the master. The foreman assented. "Well, see; here is another letter sent to you by one equally in earnest," said the master, holding up a slip of paper with some texts of Scripture written on it. He took the paper and began to read slowly. "Come—unto—Me—all—ye—that—labor." His lips quivered, his eyes filled with tears; then he stood for a few moments, not knowing what to do. At length he inquired: "Am I just to believe that in the same way I believed your letter?" "Just in the same way," rejoined the master. This expedient was owned of God in setting him at liberty.—S. J.

SHOPS OF A TREE REVIVAL.—The filling up of the seats in the prayer-meeting by the heads of families. 24. A spirit of devotion and prayer pervading the young men of the church. 25. An earnest study of the Scriptures, and a desire on the part of all the members of the Sabbath school. 26. The revival of family worship among those who have neglected it. 27. A better attendance on the services of God's house on the Sabbath. 28. And last, but not least, A consecration of the wives of the widows to the cause of missions.

These, we think, are evidences of no mean revival, when they begin to show themselves in any church. They will soon be followed by a striving on the part of the godless to be like-minded.

THE GREAT LONE LAND. LECTURE BY REV. DR. TAYLOR.

On Tuesday night Rev. Dr. Taylor delivered his lecture on "The Great Lone Land" in the Association Hall. His Worship the Mayor occupied the chair, and introduced the lecturer. Dr. Taylor, on coming forward, first referred to a remark made to Napoleon Bonaparte by one of his councillors to the effect that the colonies of Britain were her best anchor, the support of her power, and to one made by Napoleon himself on the eve of Waterloo, that England should look wholly to her commercial and naval affairs for her power. He next referred to the extent of the British colonies, three of them together were more than twice as large as Europe, and two and a half times as large as the United States. British North America is more than 100,000 square miles larger than the United States, their latest purchase Alaska included. The population of one of her colonies is almost as much as that of all the European countries. Her empire comprises one-sixth of the globe, and her Queen rules over more than one-fifth of the world's population. Manitoba—Indian, Manitoa-pa, the place of the Great Spirit,—which was travelled over by the writer for ten weeks continuously, from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day, would be the subject of the lecture. The prairies of this province were covered with rich verdure and flowers, and sometimes on rising in the morning, having pitched their tent after dark, the travellers would find that they slept literally on a bed of roses. This prairie was the finest cattle pasture in the world. The lecturer dreamed that he saw on it the vanguard of civilization, that it was spotted with towns, villages, churches and schoolhouses, millions of people, farmhouses and cultivated fields yielding abundance to support the millions on it. Think of the enormous size of this country. North of the parallel of its southern boundary there was situated in Europe the British Isles, part of France, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, part of the British Isles, and nearly all of Russia. Some appear to think, however, that this continent is much colder than Europe, but it is hardly the case. The Eastern portion of it doubtless is, but in British Columbia, north of the latitude of Montreal, the lecturer had three beautiful bouquets placed on his table on New Year's day. These he entertained had plucked with her own hands that forenoon in the open garden. The prime cause of this mildness on the Pacific coast was an ocean river, corresponding to our Gulf Stream, which gives a genial climate almost to the Arctic circle. The best also on this rising, is carried through the openings in the Rocky Mountains, and tempers the air almost to Hudson's Bay. The climate of Manitoba is almost like that of the Province of Quebec, and Fort Garry like that of Montreal, except in cold, but still drier and more endurable.

General Miscellany.

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THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

To all who look at it thoughtfully, the Roman Catholic Church in America must appear to be a marvel of power, versatility, shrewdness and aggressive persistence. Vanderbilts does not manage his enormous railroad interests with more sagacity and boldness, with a more subtle, trained and far-seeing faculty for getting on in the world, than do the priest-rulers of the Catholic Church with the vast and multitudinous operations of their tremendous corporation. The Catholic Church in America is a potent and consummate product of the genius of organization. It is coquetted reduced to science and operating with the precision of a perfect machine. What spring of individual or social influence does it leave untouched? What weapon of spiritual or of carnal dominion has it overlooked or delayed to subsidize? The pulpit, the newspaper, the platform, the caucus, the ballot, the legislator, the judicial bench, the executive office, the charms and graces of society, music, art, literature, the illimitable terrors of superstition, the power of

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CLERGY.

No true minister of the gospel desires to avoid work. His real wish is to do as much as possible, and to do it well. It is very easy for an uncharitable spirit to misconstrue the suggestions made by pastors as a desire to "shirk work," but it is really an expression of a wish to accomplish more. The lives of most popular ministers are so frittered away by those who really love them, that we propose to make a few suggestions for their benefit in general.

Let nothing be done by the pastor which can be done by any other member of the congregation. This will leave him free to use all his powers in the doing of that which cannot be done by any one else.

Let his Sundays be sacred. Do not appoint a funeral or marriage on Sunday. Do not step into the pulpit to give him some information, or to make some request. If he is in proper condition for preaching, he probably cannot understand you. His whole soul ought to be wrapped up in his sermon. Let every one keep clear from the minister until he is through with his Sunday's labor. Let him have all his vital forces for the pulpit.

Do not go about creating work for your pastor. Do not make loose statements as to what he said in the pulpit or in private life, which may keep him busy in making explanations. Do not send him any everybody that you know. Do not send him to visit all the sick people that you know. Discriminate. If the sick man has never seen your pastor, any other member is as good for him as that pastor. Let him select. If he knows no minister, send for the nearest.

Never go to a clergyman to conduct the funeral services after the hour has been fixed and has been announced in the papers. An hour or so later might suit him and be just as good for you. The hour you have appointed may conflict with several other arrangements. It may be the hour at which he eats. A professional man's working condition depends upon his sitting every day at the same hour. The minister may have another engagement at the appointed time, and it may give him an hour or trouble to postpone it; or, failing to make such postponement, he may give others much trouble and create for himself a reputation for being unprofessional.

Moreover, when practicable, employ the sexton of the church whose pastor is to officiate at the funeral. He will know the pastor's habits of study and work, and thus much time may be saved.

Perhaps this is enough for one lesson.

THE POPE AT HOME.

The Pope is at present believed to be living in happy seclusion in the halls of the Vatican. He is never seen in public. Now and then deputations of the faithful charged with embassies to the Holy Father are granted admission to the Papal palace; and on these occasions he always appears surrounded with the trappings of royalty. Those, however, who are allowed to go behind the scenes tell us that the habitual attitude of the Pontiff is anything but that of terrestrial exultation. His voluntary monasticism seems to agree with him. The mental relief from the anxieties of temporal power has so visibly improved the Pope's physical state that every one observes with wonder and almost with stupefaction the forth and robust health of the Holy Father. He seems to be almost miraculously rejuvenated and transformed. His bearing is almost youthful; his eyes are full of brightness; his cheeks rosy; his voice soorous, and his appetite very great. He is in excellent spirits, and full of confidence in a speedy restoration of the temporal power. The Pope's elasticity of mind takes a malicious turn. He is perpetually jesting at the expense of his Prelates, all of whom he scolds severely, but especially Antonelli, who has the honour of either being well-scented or turned into ridicule. Although credited with serpentine cunning, the Pontiff is childishly ingenuous, and ignorant of the ways of the world to an extent that is scarcely credible. The Vatican he knows as it was with all the world, and yet of the real bearing of the struggle he is quite ignorant. The homage and adoration of the crowds of visitors who now throng the city delude him into the notion that the cause of the Church is triumphant. Not only are the faithful Latin people as devoted as ever, but he has the idea that the Northern nations are returning to their spiritual fathers of English and American tourists who crowd into the Papal ante-chambers to kiss the Pontifical slipper are actuated by mere curiosity. He talks of the "Lale of the Saints" His intoxicated imagination already pictures the celebration of Mass at the main altar of Westminster Abbey. We have no wish to disabuse the mind of the venerable Pontiff of this amiable hallucination. It may brighten the years of his dotage, and happily we are no longer affected by the chimeras of popes, and the counsels of the Vatican.—London Methodist.

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wealth, finally the absolute personal ascendancy of secret confessions.—These are its instruments, and they are handled with a skill that never blunders, an energy that never shirks duties, and an anxiety that is subtle and in the presence of which the greatest secular man of the earth is but

"A pebble, twig or blade of grass, that lies Upon the path one tramples; a thing of naught; A thing unheeded, unmarked; a thing That newly makes a part of all around."

For instance, take the Catholic Church in this country as an operator in real estate. The keenest of worldly speculators in that article would go to school to these cloistered religious institutions and learn how to pick out their building sites, and to bid their time, and to seize their opportunity, and to give their price. In the vast territory from the Bay of Fundy to San Diego, this corporation has fixed its eye and its mark on the best pieces of land; and while others are in a hurry, it can wait; and what it once takes, it never surrenders; and it calculates values, not on a scale of years or of decades, but of centuries. In fifty years from now many of the great property, real estate, personal, that all other religious bodies put together; and thus add to its other auxiliaries the almightiness of the American dollar,—if, indeed, by that time the American dollar do not have its almightiness quite inflated out of it.—Ch. Union.

DR. PUNSHON IN ROME.

The Rev. Dr. Punshon continued active at Rome. His name is frequently mentioned in connection with special public services. He has recently made a visit to Italy, and preached in Naples and Rome. In the latter city he had a large congregation that the church could accommodate. It must have been gratifying to his missionary heart to proclaim the word of life in that memorial city.

The Methodist Recorder says: In the *Civiltà Evangelica*—a new monthly journal, of evangelical principles, in the Italian language, which has just been started in Naples, we find a glowing account of a sermon preached (in English of course) by Dr. Punshon on the occasion of his recent visit to that city. Dr. Punshon was accompanied by the Rev. Gervase Smith, Secretary of the Conference, and one or two other friends. The services of these eminent ministers in Rome were highly appreciated. A large congregation of English and American visitors assembled in the Methodist church to hear Dr. Punshon, and (says the Recorder) several other arrangements have been greater still had it not been for the shortness of the notice. Our eloquent friend has returned to England all the better for his month's excursion, and, as our advertising columns have shown, he has plenty of work before him.—Ch. Union.

COPYRIGHTS.—Of the many annoying and oppressive effects upon American authors and publishers entailed by our refusal to have an international copyright law with England, there is an old and rather amusing specimen. The popularity of Dr. Holland's novel, *Arthur Bonnicastle*, induced the London publishers, Ward & Lock, to determine on bringing it out in their famous "Two Shilling Series." In the midst of their preparations, however, they learned that another publisher in London was bringing out the same book, and that he had acquired a copyright on it by the ingenious device of inserting a new chapter written in England. Mr. Ward & Lock were not to be baffled. They at once struck out the copyrighted chapter of their rival, had a new chapter of their own written, and now publish the book with a Preface setting forth temperately the whole affair as an exemplification of the grotesque and demoralizing consequences produced by the present state of legislation upon this subject. Dr. Holland was convinced of this case; but no one else in this country has a right to. The English publishers are but playing off upon us a variation of the tricks which we have long been teaching them. These are our own chickens, and they are coming home to roost.—Ch. Union.

TAKE CARE.—Every man is his brother's keeper. Every man is bound to abstain from reducing his brother into evil courses. It is a responsibility beyond that. He must not only set a trap for those who have some strength but he must also not leave, through carelessness, any stumbling block, over which the blind or weak may fall.

These simple views of morals we have been led to state by the complaint of a letter-carrier. One friend of ours sent a letter containing a package of money to our office to be handed to another friend. The envelope was unsealed. It need never have been sealed, its appearance showed that no wax or water could have been used, and that no mutilation had ever been on the envelope. If the money had dropped out on its way to the Post Office, or before the letters were distributed, an innocent carrier might have been held responsible, or a weak carrier might have been tempted into purloining. In either case, much harm would have come through our amiable friend's great carelessness. He who prays every day not to be led into temptation should be careful not to lead others.—Ch. Advocate.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA will meet in August. The session will be of vital interest. In that case that church is not induced to negotiate further touching union with the Wesleyans and the New Connection Methodists, it will probably take a new departure for future work. In this case the new plans will include the election of one or two more bishops. Such election will possibly revive the question whether or not that church will select a superintendent from among the ministers in the United States. Our Canadian brethren have a fine record of comparative progress in Canada since 1828.—N. Y. Ad.

HARD words are like hail-stones in summer, beating down and destroying what they would nourish if they were melted into drops.

Obituary.

Mrs. MARY FERGUSON and MR. ISAAC TAYLOR. During the "Conference Year" so rapidly drawing to a close, the names of Mrs. Fergusson and Mr. Taylor have been called upon to add two flames to the death roll of our Church, both of which are well known to the members who have occupied this field of labor in the past.

At Lakeville, on the 27th July last, departed this life, Mrs. Mary Fergusson, in the 80th year of her age. She was one of the oldest members of the Methodist Church in the place. But although she had reached such an advanced stage in the journey of life, up to the time of her death, she possessed the use of her reasoning faculties to a remarkable degree. True, her eyes were somewhat dimmed and her natural strength abated, but she could give an answer in regard to her hope in Christ, with such clearness and scriptural force, as to convince the inquirer that she had not only the spirit of love, but a sound mind. From personal conversation with her, we should judge that she had been a profound religion for upwards of sixty years. She had been called to pass through more than ordinary trials and bereavements in her journey to the better land, but through all her faith never lost its hold upon Christ. Her last testimony to the writer was that God had done "all things well, and led her in ways she knew not, and by paths she had not known." Her death was apparently free from all pain or suffering. "A falling asleep in Jesus."

At Sheffield, April 27th, Mr. Isaac Taylor, in the 67th year of his age. His complaint was very distressing, being disease of the heart. Naturally of a strong and vigorous constitution, it took very many assaults on the seat of life to bring him down. Slowly but surely the clouds of death were gathered, and he passed his last days and nights the hands of faithful children ministered unto him, and bore him up in his bodily agony. So far as kindness could go it went, but it could only do so much. Though suffering terrible pain, in his moments of ease, he conversed fully about his spiritual prospects. He said, he had not the delight he would wish in view of his departure, but his faith was strong, and in quietness and assurance he passed away, we trust to that world where there is no more "pain or sorrow," for the former things are passed away. F. W. H. May, 1874.

MR. JONATHAN CROW.

Died on April 1st, 1874, Mr. Jonathan Crow of Halifax. Our late Bro. Crow will be remembered by our former Pastors of the Wesleyan Churches in Halifax, as an active leader and an earnest and faithful Christian man. Forty years ago at an invitation service in the old Zoro Chapel, in which the late Mr. Desbrisay and others were set apart to the work of the ministry, he was convinced of sin, and after tasting deeply of the "wordwood and gall," was made very happy in the clear sense of pardoning mercy. He loved the sweet songs of our spiritual Israel, and never seemed more in his element than when singing hymns "full of Christ." He was ardently attached to all the institutions of our Church. On visiting him one day just before his death, he said, "I feel deeply interested in the success of the Home Missions. I have little to leave, but here is \$10 which I wish you to accept as my last thank-offering. Give it to the Home Mission Fund. The gift was accompanied by earnest prayer for the blessing of God upon the labours of the Home Missionsaries.

The illness of Bro. Crow was very severe, and his faith keenly tested. As the cruel convulsion disease slowly but surely pressed day to day, until the power of articulation was almost gone, he was sometimes greatly distressed. But God did not forsake His suffering servant. Faith and patience triumphed. The experience of the poet was realized:—

"When my sufferings most increase, Then his richest joys are given; And agony is heaven."

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Almanac. Morning, 4 1/2; Afternoon, 5 1/2; Evening, 6 1/2. ... THE ALBERT FACTORY. ... PANEL DOORS upwards. Keeps on hand, 7x3, 6 ft, 10x12. ... W. S. AND BARRERS, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. ... THE ALBERT FACTORY. ... PANEL DOORS upwards. Keeps on hand, 7x3, 6 ft, 10x12. ... W. S. AND BARRERS, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. ... THE ALBERT FACTORY. ... PANEL DOORS upwards. Keeps on hand, 7x3, 6 ft, 10x12. ... W. S. AND BARRERS, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. ... THE ALBERT FACTORY. ... PANEL DOORS upwards. Keeps on hand, 7x3, 6 ft, 10x12. ... W. S. AND BARRERS, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. ... THE ALBERT FACTORY. ... PANEL DOORS upwards. Keeps on hand, 7x3, 6 ft, 10x12. ... W. S. AND BARRERS, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. ... THE ALBERT FACTORY. ... PANEL DOORS upwards. Keeps on hand, 7x3, 6 ft, 10x12. ... W. S. AND BARRERS, 9, 12,