

## THÉ WESLEYAN.

## THE WESLEYAN SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1878.

EDITORIAL DIFFICULTIES.

This week, by a strange combination of afflictions, our columns are deprived of their usual quota of editorial matter. The Editor, after almost closing the business of the Halifax District, was arrested by a sharp attack of Pleurisy on Friday morning last. Through God's good providence, and the faithful attention of his nearest brethren, the disease was prevented from gaining headway, so that convalescence ensued earlier than was feared. On Saturday, Mr. Huestis, of the Book Room, was summoned by telegraph to see one of his children, in the country, affected by diphtheria. His sister was, at the same time, prostrated, at the Editor's residence, by a severe affection of the eyes; while, to crown the complication of troubles, Rev. S. F. Huestis returned from District to endure the effects of a rather serious Influenza. It was very saddening to find, on our return from Wolfville, where the Halifax District was in session, that a nephew of the Editor, whom he had helped last autumn to nurse through an almost hopeless disease, was again in the grasp of the same enemy, and an urgent call bad been made for a visit of sympathy.

Such is life, and such the strength of which we are so apt to boast ! Powerless, indeed, are the best energies and skill of mankind, when disease stretches out its hand and touches: the strength and vitality.

Our readers will, we are sure, overlook the absence of editorial matter. this week, when the circumstances are considered, and especially with so full a compliment of original contributions. During the Editor's absence at the Conferences; every effort will be made to keep the WESLEYAN supplied with

past ages have handed down and imrosed upon the Church, to give expression to its felt necessities in prayer. Nor could we fail to believe that a Conference thus opened had already secured a large measure of promise of divine ter.

presence. On entering the church it seemed full. On the platform were the Rev. James Gray in the chair, on his right ex-Presiderts Dr. Sanderson and Williams, the last of whom had just received from the University of Victoria College his well earned title of D.D. On the President's left was the retiring Secretary, Rev. Mr. Clarkson. The roll was called and one hundred and seventy answered to their names, and it was evident that nearly one hundred more were present. By a large majority vote the Rev. E. B. Ryckman, M. A., was elected to the President's chair. On coming forward he affected no modesty, he frankly told us that while he had not sought the office he was not surprised. Kindly intimations had been given him frequently of the brethren's intentions to do him the honor. He was not insensible to the honor thus conferred upon him, it was exceedingly gratifying to him; he had loved Methodism from his youth; he was born of Methodist stock, and had always looked up to the chair of the Methodist Conference as one of the highest positions a person could occupy. Mr. R., though somewhat venerable in appearance from the premature whitening of his hair, belongs to the -younger men of the Conference. He owes much

during which he won the love of the students, many of which are now found in our ministerial ranks. This is the first occasion on which the Church has honored Victoria University by conferring her-highest office upon one of its graduates. And as a native born Canadian Mr. R, has had but few predeces-SORS WIT ANTIMANALLAN DENTRY AND A

reports of proceedings Mr. Wakefield was elected Secretary -somewhat older than the President. HALIFAX DISTRICT. ---- The annual he wears a more youthful appearance. session began at Wolfville; on Wednes-One of the most successful workers in the ministry, he is also one of the most day last at 2 pl mi with a full attend popular préachers. The votes indicated ance of members. This District, always large, and intelligent, was this types that the country men were W. S. Griffin made quite imposing ha the presence of for President, and George H. Cornish for Secretary. so many excellent laymen. Discussions The report of the Transfer Committee were frequent,) animated, and son varias ous topics. Notwithstanding, the work was oread and the -name of Leonard of the District was fairly completed. Gaetz was introduced, and by the vote excepting a few details, by Thursday of the Conference he took his seat as a member a mong us > heartily is he welnight. Friday was given to examinations, and returning home. comed, and John Street, Hamilton, is to be congratulated on having secured the services of one whose reputation BARCIES AS advanced as \$600000114 total Missionary receipts, with a good increase (of membership) and ) at inv places him in the front rank of pulpit provement, very decided, in all the mehl reiholtald a vilnesses an Funds, excepting one? of meaner of the The following resolution was then The principal question for the laity unanimously adopted. was that of elections. These resulted "This Conference desires to express in an almost unanimous choice of Dr. and place on record the esteem in which Allison, Hon. S. L. Shannon, and Jas. the Rev. James Gray is held by this B. Morrow, Esq., for General Conferbody, and also our appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered to the ence, with A. McN. Patterson, Esq. Conference during the term of his A.M., for the Missionary Board. Presidency, and we tender him our hearty thanks for the zeal and devotion LONDON CONFERENCE. which have marked the discharge of all his presidential duties." A splendid ride of one hundred and Rev. T. L. Wilkinson and James ten miles over the Canada Southern Harris were appointed as Conference Railroad, brought your correspondent reporters for our Connexional organs. from his home in the furthermost town The Christian Guardian and the WESin Southwestern Canada to the seat of LEYAN. I believe this is the first time the London Conference, the thrifty and in which the WESLEYAN has been thus beautiful town of St. Thomas. The acknowledged and honored by any of town gives evidence on every side of Western Conferences-a few years ago the new life and blood which has been it was almost unknown in the Westimported into it during the past six but it is, we are glad to know, beginyears by two new lines of railway passning to take its proper place in our ing through it. It has all the features midst.

never come) when Methodism must ed in past years, was yet more than It was proposed to call it after this have recourse to the formularies which suspected of continuing the practice of tippling, detained the Conference on the following day for many hours, and resulted in his name being left off the minutes, and the Chairman requested more fully to investigate into the mat-

Knowing that your readers did not require a minute detail of Conference proceedings, but a general account of the whole, we resolved immediately upon our appointment, to attempt to give them a digest of the whole, and as far as possible, give them an inside view of the London Conference while in session. A leading feature has been the prominence which has been given to our Sunday School work. Wednesday evening was devoted to a public meeting of the Conference S. S. Society in Grace Church, it was the first public meeting of the Conference, and was not only well attended, but was very enthusiastically spoken of, and the cause of Sunday School instruction received a strong impetus. Normal Classes, conducted by Bros. Alfred Andrews and W. C. Henderson, were held frequently in the morning, and sometimes attended by over seventy of the reachers. The meeting of the Educational Society on Thursday evening was the best we have ever attended. Nobly did Professor Burwash advocate the claims of our candidates to the highest culture the Church could give, while he showed that so far from unfitting them for the roughest of rough work in the ministerial field, they are to-day to be found on our most inhospitable misof his popularity to his early college sions, and performing labors and sufcareer, both as student and professor, fering hardships to which even our pioneer fathers were strangers. Three years in circuit work followed by three years of collegiate special training seems o be the present aim. The Rev. Leonard Gaetz followed in a racy and eloquent address, and was much applauded. Of the great meeting on Friday evening for the reception of candidates, it is not too much to say that it was never exceeded by any previous meeting of a imilar character. The experiences of the candidates, and the maddresses of Revs. Ryckman, Clarkson, Dr. Rice and A. Sutherland, sustained and carried on the interest to the very last. The Sabbath Services, from the Love Feast to the concluding services of the evening, were simply glorious in their tide of divine presence and power. So testified those who attended them. For ourselves, duty seemed to point in the direction of a motherless family and a home pulpit. We however reached Conference again-thanks to the age of steam in time for the opening session on Monday The report of the Statistical Committee that there was a net increase of \$2,219 on all the Connexional funds, and of 500 in the membership of the Church, was received with thank, fulness. We had trembled lest, and and many woefully expected a decrease in the members. The great districts in the East had heavy decreases, but the Western ones brought up the number, counterbalanced the defalcations, and placed the Conference figures in the right column. Never was there such a thorough sifting of the question, "Who are superannuated," as this year, the result will be very beneficial, and has already placed some in "effective ranks." Strong things were said by Dr. Ryerson upon men who did not retain their zeal in the work, and for whom it was almost impossible to find a circuit, and who, in consequence, though in health and strength, were superannuated; for himself, he declared he never had and never would take anything out of the fund, and he had no sympathy with that class who were well off, and yet

The Missionary meeting was followed by a Session of Conference, at which the Stations were read, and the Chairmen were elected. Tuesday evening brought together the Lay and Clerical representatives of the Contingent Fund Committee-before which your correspondent had to go to 'represent the district. It was a painful thing, to compare the very urgent claims made for assistance, with the very limited means in the hands or at the disposal of the Committee. About \$2,800 was the sum total-\$1,400 were required for special cases of affliction, leaving similar sum to be divided among the districts.

The temperance meeting that evening was one of the best we ever attended, and wound up with a most humorous, earnest, and eloquent address from Dano Playes, Esq., of Brantford.

The great feature of Wednesday, the last day of Conference, was the election of delegates to the General Conference. Everybody wanted to be elected, and there was much "If you'll vote for me I will for you." The final result, after no less than three or four ballotings, was quite disappointing to not a few who wanted to serve the Church by going to Montreal next September, but who, with your correspondent were elected to stay at home. The Conference at Toronto assembling this morning, mutual messages were exchanged by telegraph. Our own Conference continued its sessions until nearly midnight. A nice point came up for settlement at this last session. Two districts had been divided, how was the district to be represented by a layman in the Missionary Committee. It was decided that he must be elected at the Financial District Meeting. I should have said that a large part of Tuesday was taken up in Conference in ...considening recommendation from districts for legislation at ensuing General Conference but bot being present we cannot correctly report the proceedings. It was resolved to hold the next Conference in London.

## A CHARGE

JUNE 29

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DELIVERED BY BEV. JOHN GOODISON, EX-PRESIDENT OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE ORDINATION OF NINE YOUNG MIN. ISTERS, AT WHOSE BEQUEST IT IS PRINTED :--

Allow me my dearly beloved brethren to congratulate you upon the very successful termination of your probationary course, and also for the position in which you are now found. No doubt you have, during your probation, often anxioualy looked forward to this solemn moment On many occasions you have been almost inclined to give up the contest, and retire from the field of action. At other times you have been cheered by the many bright examples of those who have preceded you in that ministry into which you have just been inducted by the solemn imposition of hands. And throughout the whole of your probationary course we trust, nay wa have every reason to believe that you have been sustained, comforted and directed by Him who when on earth solemnly impressed upon the minds of his disciples, "Without me ye can do nothing." I there

fore rejoice with you that the goal has been reached, and that you are now to go forth into the world duly accredited ministers of the Church of Christ.

I need not inform you dear brethren that the office of a minister of Christ is one of the most important, responsible and arduous ever engaged in by mortal man. It is important inasmuch as the Christian minister is one who standeth " in the stead of Christ" to beseech men to be reconciled to God. Its responsibility is evident when you consider that the eternal destinies of those over whom the Lord is pleased to place him are committed to his charge, and that he must watch over them as one that must give account at the last day. It is an "arduous" office because entrusted to him are the sacred and mysterious truths which are contained in God's Holy Word, in order that he may so dispense the word of life as not only to meet with the Divine approval, but also that the skirts of his garments may be clear of the blood of all men. Thus from whatever standpoint we view that sacred office to which you have this night been publicly set apart, you cannot but perceive how necessary it is for you to be men full As it is then our duty to address you on this occasion in order that you, may mere fully realize, your sacred position, and that you may be gracionaly assisted in your endeavors to consecrate yourselves fully and unreservedly to the service and glonyi of God, we shall, as the foundation of anys remarks we have to make upon this solemn odcasion take the 15th verse of the second Epistle to Timothy as our text, and may the Divine and ever blessed and Holy. Spirit of God which proceedeths from the Father and the Son graciously assist us in the same. BRETHREN BE SEATED.

of an embryo city, and boasts of sixthousand inhabitants; and although one of the oldest towns of the penind sula, all its public buildings, and most of its stores are quite new. Among the most conspicuous ornaments of the town is the St. George Street Methodist Church, in which the Conference assem-

bled, besides which, we have a second liams, and T. S. Cellins.

As we entered the vestibule of the Charch the sonorous voice of the Rev. Alex. Langford, leading, the assembled Conference in prayer fell on our ears, comprehensive in range, beautiful in expression, and tich in unction was that the offending brother. opening prayer; and we felt that the

A Committee on Nominations was balloted for, and Revs. Dr. Rice, Dr. Williams, Wm. Williams, W. S. Griffin and James Gray were appointed.

The afternoon Session was almost wholly occupied by a painful case of discipline, and the brethren were greatly divided between their sympathies church at the East End, the pastors of for a younger brother, who by sixteen these churches are Revs. Jno. A. Wil- years of most exemplary conduct and ministerial fidelity, had won for him a

high place in the esteem of all who knew him, and then our fidelity to the purity of the Christian ministry. The result was the disposition from the min-Another case of discipline, in which the first Methodist Church in Japan,

who drew annually large sums from it. There are 43 claimants on the fund in this Conference. The Missionary meet. ing on Monday evening was one of r are interest. Rev. Amos E. Russ was there to tell us in his own humorous and eloquent style of the "Grease trail" of British Columbia, North of Fort Simpson. Dr. McDonald was there to tell

us of the marvellous history of Japan and its missions. Louis Beaudry was there to thrill us with his brief but eloquent address on our French work. Such was the enthusiasm produced by istry, and expulsion from the Church of Dr. McDonald's address, that a five dollar subscription was opened to build

time has not yet come (and may it one who had been Requently admonish and which amounted to nearly \$200. Conference.

int ore Yours, int ore Yours, int of the State lemont - amoor- 21mul toiligned mon NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE. TIP FINAL DRAFT OF THE STATION SHEET. REV. G. S. MILLIGAN, PRESIDENT.

ST. JOHN'S DISTRICT. St. John's .- Job Shenton, Chas Ladner, Wm. Kendall, one to be sent. Thomas Fox, Supernumerary."" G.S. Milligan, M.A., President. Burin .- Solomon Matthewsalled Grand Bank. John Reay, Fortune.-Jabez Hill. Petites. James Pincock Channell .... George P. Story.

HOME MISSIONS St. Pierre.....One wanted. Fortune Bay-One wanted Flat Islands. James Wilson Sound Island.-One to be sent. Flower Cove .- One to be sent. St. Anthony.-One to be sent. Bonne Bay ..... One to be sent. Labrador.-Red Bay-J. P. Bowell, II.—CARBONEAR DISTRICT.

5.—Carbonear.—John Goodison, Joseph A. Jackson, Joseph S. Peach, Supy. 16.—Harbor Grace.—James Dove. 17.-Brigus.-Jos. Pascoe, W. E. Shenstone, Supernumerary. Cupids.-George Boyd-brethren on Brigus and Cupids Circuits to exchange once in 6 weeks. Bay Roberts.-F. G. Willey. 19.

Black Head -Jeremiah Embree. Western Bay.-R. W. Freeman. Island Cove.-Thomas H. James 22. Old Perlican.-George H. Bryant. 24. Hants Harbor.—Charles Myers. HOME MISSIONS.

23.

## Port de Grave.-One to be sent. 25. Hearts Content,-Jesse Heyfleld. 26. Trinity.-Anthony Hill. Random North .- Henry C. Hatcher, 28. Random South.-Edgar Taylor to reside at Northern Bight. 30. Green's Harbor.-George Paine. III.-BONAVISTA DISTRICT. 31. Bonavista.-Thomas Harris. Catalina.-Joseph Parkins. Greenspond -Joseph Lister-one to be sent.

34. Twillingate -- William Swann. Exploits .- John Pratt HOME MISSIONS

Musgrave Town-Samuel Snowdon. Musgrave Harbor.-Robert Bramfitt. Fogo, -Thomas H. Athinson. 38. Herring Neck and Change Islands .-39. Thomas C. Eland. \_ 40. Moreton's Harbor.-James Nurse. Little Bay Island-Wm. Jennings. 41. Bett's Cove and ¿ Jas. B. Heal. 42. Till Cove. S George Bullen. G. B. Bond, A. B., has permission of Conference to rest. Students in Theology.-Henry Lewis.

W. B. Seccombe, W. H. Eddyvean, W. R. Tratt. S. B. Dunn transferred to Nova Scotia

2nd Tim. 2nd chap. 15th verse : "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of struth?"

These very impressive words are part of a charge delivered by the apostle Paul to Timothy. Both in this and the preceding Epistle the apostle urges upon him whom he designates "kis own son in the Gospel" the great necessity of deeply considering the very important position he was then occupying in the Church of Christ. And in both these Epistles he gives him such advice as has been made a lasting blessing to those placed in circumstances like those in which you are found to night. He gives him to understand that such 'honor was not God's gift to all his servants, and that those to whom this trust was come mitted were specially called and qualified by the Great Head of the Church to this important office, and he also informs him in the language of our text that it was ex. pected of all such persons that they would, "Study to show themselves approved unto God, workmen that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Before presenting yourselves as candidates for ordination in the Christian ministry we presume that you have fully weighed the whole matter in your own minds, and that you are thoroughly convinced that you have been called by the Great Head of the Church to this high and sacred office. The answers you have given to the questions proposed by the President of the Conference leads to this conclusion. The apostles of our Lord were raised up, and sent forth by CHEIST HIMSELF to teach and to preach the Gospel. And He has not delegated that power to any creature under heaven. He still and will ever remain the Head over all things to His church. Yea, he is the church's living Head and He liveth for evermore. It is then He who by his Holy Spirit that still calls and qualifies His servants for this important office. A call to the work of the ministry is Divine in its nature. A mere human call is not sufficient authority. In the examination, of persons who present themselves for Descon's orders in the Church of England the candidate is asked this very im portant question : "Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you this office and ministration, to serve God for the promoting of His glory and the edifying of his people And the person so addressed solemnly answers " I trust so." And this we trust is the case with you Nay we have every reason to believe that your hearts have been thus drawn to take upon you his holy ministration and that you have heard

