

lost in images, and your justification by faith lost in priestly mediation? Would it make no difference to you though the soul of your prayer were lost in a dead form of words, and the very germ of your spiritual life in the ceremonialism that contained it? Grasp firmly these old doctrines. Salvation will never be won by "doing some great thing," but by coming in God's own appointed way in simple faith that involves obedience, to "wash and be clean."

IN ANOTHER DIRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESLEYAN. MY DEAR MR. SMITH: The interesting article in the Wesleyan of the 16th inst., with the caption "Nearer Home," and signed "Country Parson," deserves the most favorable consideration of our ministers both in the country and city.

It reminded me of a "new departure" of the Methodist Church in England. Reference is here made not to the marriages of our people, nor to the gift of a hymn book to the newly wedded pair, but to the baptism of children, and the presentation of a First Catechism to the parents at the time of the administration of that sacrament. The Conference in England had for several years been striving to improve the "service" appointed to be used in the administration of baptism, in the direction of making it expressly and unmistakably Protestant and evangelical. This important labour having been completed, the Conference of the present year accepted the alterations recommended, and authorized the use of the amended service by the ministers of the parent connexion. The amendments are consequently inserted in a new edition of "The Book of Public Prayers and Services for the use of the People called Methodists."

Of the changes made in the baptismal service two only shall be mentioned here. Both are very noticeable and will command the approval of all earnest and intelligent Methodists. The first of these occurs in that series of short prayers which are appointed to be said immediately after the child has been baptized, and it is as follows: "Grant that the parents of this infant may have grace, that they may ever set before their child the example of a godly life, and by their prayers and holy conversation may be the ministers of God to him for good. Amen." The second is found in a line subjunctive to the appointed "service" and reads thus: "To aid in the training of the child, a copy of the First Catechism shall be given to the parents."

Every member of the Methodist church may be supposed to have a Bible and a hymn-book. He will obtain these precious treasures at the earliest day that it is possible for him to do so, he will peruse them reverently, and cling to them tenaciously all the days of his life. Of almost equal value to parents will be the First Catechism of our Church. No Methodist parent can be indifferent to the early leading of their children into the knowledge of divine truth. They cannot begin too soon to sow the seed of the kingdom of God in the yet unoccupied soil of their offspring's mind, nor wisely persist therein with too much assiduity. There must be hundreds of Methodist parents in the Conferences by these who enjoy this privilege and are anxious to perform this duty aright, and effectually. It is respectfully submitted that they will find no better help in the performance of their "sweet task of love" than in our First Catechism. It is true the book is small, but it is comprehensive, easily understood, its questions and answers are short, and it costs but a trifle. Were the ministers of the Methodist Church universally to adopt the practice so wisely enjoined on our brethren in England it would repay them speedily in a variety of ways. May they try it for a few years and widely announce the result.

The revised edition of the First Catechism has a precious section, the seventh—"Of Jesus Christ and Little Children." To know and feel the blessed truths expressed in this section, and to apply them to one's own infants would largely increase the endearment with which they are now regarded; would establish and invigorate hope for the success of parental painstaking for their being made early the subjects of saving grace, and transmute the toil of teaching into a pure pleasure.

Allow me to cite here the last five questions and answers of the mentioned seventh section. The request is made because they are so attractively connected with the baptism of the little ones. "What did the Lord say about children before he went up to heaven? He said to Peter 'Feed my lambs.' May children receive the Holy Ghost? Yes: for God has promised to pour out his Spirit upon all flesh, and his blessing upon the offspring of his people. By what sign is it shown that the Lord is the Saviour of children? Children are baptized into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. What is the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost? The name of the one God in Three Persons, blessed forever. How must you remember your baptism? By seeking grace that I may become a true Christian, and serve God and my Saviour all the days of my life."

To the Catechism proper are added "Prayers for little children," one for morning, another for the evening, and yet others for the morning and the evening of the Lord's day. These prayers for children are unsurpassed in their beautiful simplicity and appropriateness. Happy the children who shall be thus taught and thus guided! Happy the fathers and the mothers

who shall thus early lead their best beloved, their little ones! Their labor for souls and for Christ shall be amply rewarded, in the filial piety of their families, in the early piety, subsequent virtue and usefulness of their children, and let us expect as well as hope that at the last day, when they shall have adoringly said to the supreme Lord, "Here are we and the children which thou gavest us." He will from His high and glorious throne say both to the faithful parents and their saved offspring, "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you."

May the foregoing prove not unacceptable although the writer is a SUPERNUMERARY. Nov. 1883.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Robert Theakston was on Monday last elected alderman for Ward 4 of this city.

The Baptist Church in Nova Scotia has lost a valuable member by the death of D. R. Eaton, Esq., of Cornwallis. We learn from the Christian Visitor that Mr. Eaton was led into the service of Christ through a Methodist revival.

The Methodist Recorder says: "We are glad to learn that the health of Dr. Rigg has been considerably benefited by the partial rest he has allowed himself of late, but still much remains to be done before he can fully undertake the active labours in which he delights."

The New Brunswick Government has appointed Wm. Crockett, Esq., A. M., Principal of the Provincial Normal School, to the post of Chief Superintendent of Education for that Province. The appointment, we judge, meets with general approval. Eldon Mullin, M. A., has been appointed Principal of the Normal School.

Mr. H. P. Winter, formerly of Fredericton, is Secretary of the Y. M. C. Association of Portland, Me. The membership has grown from 128 adult members, when Mr. Winter took hold of the work three years ago, to 1110 adults and 625 boys. He has declined three flattering calls to other fields of labor since entering upon the work there.

A little four-year old daughter of Rev. J. Embree, of Twillingate, Nfld., narrowly escaped death through burning. Had not Rev. Mr. Duffill, who was in the study at the time, heard her cries and gone to the rescue, the consequence must have been fatal. Mrs. Embree had gone to meet her husband on his return from the Missionary Committee, and the servant had gone out, leaving the children alone.

The English Methodist papers, in speaking of the honorable record of the Rev. Robert Wilson, of the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference, who is now in England, say that "his services in the pulpit and on the platform may be utilised during his stay. He is also an authorized agent of the Government of Canada in the interests of emigration, and will deliver addresses on and give such information concerning Canada as will be useful to those seeking homes in the Great Dominion. Mr. Wilson's address is 9, Victoria-chambers, Westminster, London."

We regret to learn that the illness of Mr. A. N. Archibald, Secretary of the British American Book and Tract Society, terminated in death on Tuesday evening. Typhoid fever, followed by pneumonia and blood poisoning, in turn gave place to bronchitis, and with these complications, medical skill was of no avail. Mr. Archibald gave all his time and strength to his duties and proved a most efficient officer. He belonged to that class of men who, we are apt to think, can ill be spared. To his sorrowing widow, who is a sister of J. T. Mellich, Esq., and Rev. I. M. Mellich, we tender sincere sympathies.

LITERARY, &c.

Part Second of French Celebrities, just published by Funk and Wagnell, New York, tells of living Frenchmen, whose names are everywhere heard in connection with their country's government or literary progress. Any person who keeps posted in the events of the day should have it. Its price is only 15 cents. S. F. Huestis, Halifax.

Cornish Stories, by Mark Guy Pearse, consists of six Christmas and other stories in that author's happiest vein. In a most pleasing style, which makes a reader unwilling to lay the book aside till its last page is reached, Mr. Pearse conveys truths that all, and young Methodists especially, can learn only with profit. This pretty volume is published by T. Woolmer, London.

Theories and Criticisms is a little work of ninety-four pages. The author, Mr. J. McD. Scott, a Dalhousie graduate of 1878, died a few days ago, just before his book came from the press. His fellow students and his numerous friends admired his talents and loved him for his many good qualities, and they and others, too, will take up this little posthumous work with interest. It is sold by McGregor and Knight.

From T. Woolmer, London, we have Illustrations of Fulfilled Prophecy, by R. Robinson Gregory. Several larger works of the kind, written by Dr. Keith and others, are beyond the purse and time of general readers. The book before us Mr. Gregory de-

signs "for our elder scholars and for thoughtful men with little leisure for reading and none for learned discussion rather than for professional students of the written Word." As such it has a useful mission.

Harper's Magazine for December takes the place of the mammoth Harper's Christmas of 1882, which is not repeated this year. An array of authors and articles seldom if ever before brought together, has taken part in its preparation. The illustrations alone have cost, it is stated, over \$10,000. It is the first number of a series, according to the publishers, "unexampled in magazine literature." Many of its columns and illustrations are devoted to Christmas, but interesting papers on many other topics blend with the articles so appropriate to the holiday season.

In the North American Review for December are several interesting papers, among them one on the proposed "Government Control of the Telegraph" and another on "Railroad and Public Time," but in it, as too often of late, we observe a tendency to certain heterodox opinions which leads us to think of the Springfield Republican's comment called forth by last month's article on John Brown. That paper remarked: "The North American Review suffers from a system of irresponsible editing which would ruin a daily newspaper, and must in the end destroy any authority which the name of that venerable repository of ancient history and modern squabbles may still retain."

Would not your neighbor's home be made better by the visits of the WESLEYAN? There are hundreds of Methodist families who rarely see a church paper—is his one?

METHODIST NOTES.

A work of God is in progress in Truro. At every meeting men and women are turning to the Lord.

Rev. B. Hills, A. M., writes: "On the 11th inst. I received two persons into full membership at West Brook, baptizing one of them—gleanings of Bro. Wright's labors."

Charles McIntosh, of Piedmont Valley, through the Eastern Chronicle expresses the thanks of himself and other trustees of the new church there for the aid given them by citizens of New Glasgow.

The enlarged and newly-furnished basement of the Providence church, Yarmouth, was used on the 18th inst. for worship. The main audience room of the church will not be finished before the beginning of January.

Rev. John Gee writes: "Have just ended a five weeks' special services at Warren. The other night twenty spoke clearly and decidedly of their conversion to God. Our church here is much quickened. Our new parsonage built this summer at Amherst Head we expect to enter in a few days."

The Christian Journal, the organ of the Primitive Methodists in Canada, has been merged in the Christian Guardian. The Connexional Editor, the Rev. J. C. Antliff, B. D., retires from journalistic life to give himself wholly to ministerial service. His literary labors hitherto have been additional to those of pastor.

The Wesleyan College, Montreal, in the new building lately erected, was opened for the first time on the 16th inst. Hon. Senator Ferrier presided, and there was a large attendance of ministers and laymen of other denominations, the former taking a conspicuous part in the ceremonies of the day. The number of students enrolled in the college is twenty, five of whom are preparing for French evangelization.

Rev. E. E. England reports from Spring Hill Mines, Nov. 26: "Yesterday was a memorable Sabbath with our church in this town. The sacrament of baptism was administered to four adults. Fourteen persons were received into the church by the right hand of fellowship. Six others by ticket. The communion season was one of rich spiritual profit. Great grace was upon us all. Such an encouraging commencement leads us to look forward with prayerful expectation for still greater things for God and his Church.—Twenty feet have been added to the length of our church building. The outside work is now finished and we expect in a week or two to have the interior ready for service. This will give us increased accommodation, which is very much needed."

On Sunday evening the annual sermon to the Centenary Church Sunday-school, St. John, N. B., was preached by Rev. W. Dobson, to a very large congregation. The scholars occupied the choir seats and platform and sang all the hymns. The text was "Suffer little children," etc. The Telegraph speaks of the sermon as "a broad and liberal presentation of a most important theme: the relation of children to the church, which is as the preacher said, only beginning to be thoroughly understood in these latter days. An interesting feature of the service was the presentation by the pastor, on behalf of the infant class, to the trustees of the church of a handsome baptismal font. It was in the form of a large vase with a wreath of leaves encircling the top. The material is Italian marble and the cost upwards of \$600. It was filled with an immense bouquet of choice flowers.

ABROAD. The Methodist Ladies' College at Tasmania is to have a new building to cost \$45,000.

Two Armenians are studying in the Vanderbilt University for mission work in their native land.

Two Texas Methodists—brothers, give \$10,000 each to the endowment fund of the S. W. University.

The California Conference passed a resolution asking for the establishment of a fire insurance department in the Church Extension Board.

Rev. Thomas Craven, of Lucknow, has recently received a gift of a \$2,000 steam printing-press—the first press of this kind to be used in any India Mission.

The appropriations made by the Missionary Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church this year amount to \$735,000. The amount in excess of that appropriated last year by about \$40,000.

The year opens propitiously at Clark (Freedmen's) University. President Thayer writes: "We are beginning well—eight conversions already; eighty-nine partook of the sacrament last Sunday. It was a precious season."

A Band of Hope demonstration was among the exercises connected with the last English Wesleyan Conference. Ex-President Garrett presided over an audience of several thousands, with a choir of eight hundred voices. There are in the Connection 2,644 Bands of Hope, with a membership of 271,700.

A bell weighing 632 pounds has been shipped to India, bearing this inscription: "Presented to the Native Methodist Episcopal Church, Cawnpore, by Caroline Sagford Reid, A. B. 1883. 'Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.'"

A pupil of the Methodist College, Belfast, Mr. W. M. Orr, who last year obtained the first scholarship in Mathematics at the Royal University in Dublin upon most unusually high answering, this year, at the First University Examination, obtained full marks in Honor Mathematics, a thing almost unprecedented, and at the Honor Examination in Experimental Physics obtained 584 marks out of a possible 600.

A great revival is reported in Danville, Ill. Rev. Thomas Harrison, with the Methodist pastors, has been laboring for five weeks, and the city and the surrounding country has been aroused. All classes have been reached. Seven hundred and thirty had knelt at the altar up to the 15th inst., the majority of whom have claimed conversion. The work is marked by a deep conviction, clear conversion, and spirit of abounding joy.

The new Madison Avenue Church, New York, was dedicated on Sunday, 18th inst. Its total cost was \$262,770 and the balance unprovided for was \$112,770. \$92,000 was contributed at the morning service, and at the close of the evening service one of the trustees stepped within the communion railing and announced that the entire indebtedness of the church had been provided for. At a subsequent sale of the choice and rental of pews the total amount realized was \$9,000.

The wife of the native Methodist preacher at Pithoragarh, India, after a short illness, entered into rest in September. A letter says: "Her husband himself conducted the funeral services, and as the little band of loving Christians followed the loved remains to their last resting-place they sang hymns of Christian hope all the way. No one who has not seen the usual heathen procession of mourners can conceive of the contrast offered in such a peaceful burial as this."

At the session of the Missionary Committee of the M. E. Church at New York, on the 13th inst., an offer of \$10,000, made by Mrs. Philander Smith, of Little Rock, Ark., for the establishment of a medical college at Nankin, China, was accepted. The Committee also accepted a donation of \$3,000 from Rev. Dr. Goucher, of Baltimore, toward the establishment of an Anglo-Japanese university at Tokio, to cost \$12,000, providing the remaining sum shall be secured by special contributions; and of \$6,000 from the same clergyman for a theological school at Foo Chow, China.

GENERAL RELIGIOUS NOTES.

The new Salvation Army barracks, Kingston, Ont., was opened a few days ago amid great excitement.

The Boston Congregationalist mentions a church in Connecticut which according to official reports, raised last year the total sum of \$1,010,168.

The International Lesson Committee met in Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 31st. The next meeting will be held in Montreal, February, 21, 22, 1884.

The petition of the Protestant missionaries of China to the House of Commons, asking that the clause of the treaty which legalizes the opium traffic may be removed, is signed by 231 persons.

On June 3, the Mission Church in Adana, Turkey, received 74 persons on profession of faith, probably the largest number ever received at one time by any of the Mission churches in Turkey. It was expected that twenty or thirty more would be received at the next communion, and fifteen or twenty by the church in Taurus. On this occasion twelve hundred were present at the communion service, and twenty-one children were baptized.

GLEANINGS, Etc.

THE DOMINION.

There are 122 convicts in the Dorchester Penitentiary.

Upwards of 12,000 barrels of oysters have been shipped from Summerside, P. E. I., this season.

At a Canning Factory at Wallace one thousand pounds of beef and mutton are being put up daily.

The St. John Presbyterian church, St. John, N. B., is to be lighted by the electric light.

The Allan S. S. Co. have withdrawn any further proceedings against the Montreal Witness and will pay all costs.

A new house in Montreal, in course of completion and costing \$12,000, has been condemned as unsafe by the city inspector, and must be rebuilt.

Ten years ago, at North Sydney the population was less than 1,500. Now it is over 4,000. In that decade two thirds of the town has been built up.

Fifteen actions were entered last week at Montreal by married women for separation of property from their husbands.

The petitions praying for the bringing into force of the Canada Temperance Act in the County of Yarmouth have 1440 signatures of electors, therefore.

The Marquis of Lorne is to deliver a lecture on Canada next month at Birmingham and to read a paper on the same subject before the Colonial Institute shortly.

On Sunday James Huestis, a resident of Grafton Street, had just begun his dinner, when a piece of meat, sticking in his throat, caused almost immediate death.

A large and influential meeting of the descendants of the U. E. Loyalists was held in Toronto last week to take steps for the holding of the centennial celebration next year.

In the Kerr school section, on the Guysboro' Road, Halifax Co., two children during the last term walked ten miles a day to school and missed only a few days during the summer.

Several forged five dollar bills of the Bank of B. N. A. were passed last week in Montreal, of the issue of the 3rd of July, 1877, but the day of the month is omitted in the counterfeit, which is an infallible guide to its detection.

There are twenty-one cotton mills in Canada:—Nine in Ontario running 3,700 looms and 171,000 spindles; six in Quebec with 4,030 looms and 138,000 spindles; four in New Brunswick with 1,500 looms and 68,700 spindles, and two in Nova Scotia with 1,500 looms and 34,000 spindles.

The St. John Telegraph states that, in response to the representations of the Typographical Union, the Messrs. Nelson, of Edinburgh, will be notified that if they do not arrange to have the readers and other books printed in New Brunswick, the Government will consider itself called upon to have a new series prepared.

The 120 teachers at the Truro Normal School are from the several counties of the province as follows: Colchester, 45; Cumberland, 15; Hants, 10; Pictou, 9; Halifax, 6; Yarmouth, 5; Victoria, 5; Digby, 5; Kings, 4; Lunenburg, 4; Antigonish, 3; Inverness, 3; Annapolis, 3; Guysborough 3; Queens, 1; Richmond 1.

Messrs. Embree & Son, of Port Hawkesbury, whose whaleboat took the first prize at the late Fisheries Exhibition in London, and was subsequently presented to the Prince of Wales, have lately finished a magnificent shell, 22 ft. long, ordered by an English gentleman, and which was shipped to Liverpool via Halifax the other day.

The Toronto Mail says: "The other day a lady called at the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton, and said that while she was attending the college in 1868 her father failed in business, and she was obliged to leave without paying for board and tuition, but she was now prepared to pay the bill, having saved the money out of her own earnings."

The several counties in New Brunswick are represented in the Normal School, Fredericton, as follows: Albert, 3; Carleton, 20; Charlotte, 12; Kent, 10; King's, 28; Madawaska, 1; Westmorland, 22; Queen's, 11; Restigouche, 2; Gloucester, 7; St. John, 20; Sunbury, 10; Victoria, 1; Northumberland, 13; York, 45. The different religious denominations represented are as follows: B. P. M., 46; Congregationalists, 3; Episcopal, 24; Free Baptists, 25; Methodists, 40; Presbyterians, 28; Roman Catholics, 36; other denominations, 5.

GENERAL. The Duke of Castlemonate, recently captured near Trapani, Italy, by brigands, has been ransomed for \$30,000.

There are now six electric railways in operation in Europe, all of which are said to be successful.

Work has been begun on the mausoleum for the Vanderbilt family on Staten Island, to cost \$70,000.

There is no doubt that a western steamer, the *Manitoba*, has been lost with her twenty-five of a crew.

M. de Lesseps has received assurances from the engineers of the Panama Canal, that the canal will be opened in five years.

President Arthur has pardoned Sergeant Mason, sentenced to eight years for attempting to kill Garfield, the assassin of President Garfield.

The Centennial celebration on Monday of the evacuation of New York by the British was an imposing affair and a grand success.

Sir John Hawley Glover, lately Governor of Antigua and Leeward Islands, has been appointed Governor of Newfoundland.

Two steamers collided on Lake Geneva, last week, between Evian and Ouchy, and twenty passengers were drowned.

Sir William Thompson, who died last month, leaves \$120,000 to St. Andrew's University, Scotland, partly to assist females in studying for the medical profession.

The railroads of the United States, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, changed their standards of time, to correspond with that of the 60th, 75th, 90th, 105th, and 120th meridians west of Greenwich.

China abandons none of her rights, but declares that should France violate them war will be inevitable, and France will be responsible therefor. A conflict is already reported, ending in the retreat of the Chinese.

Two machine guns have just been completed in Hartford, Conn., for General Grant, as presents to the viceroy of China and the mikado of Japan. Guns of the model after which they are made have a government record of 505 shots a minute.

The Dalrymple Home, England, an asylum for imbeciles, was formally opened on Oct. 27th. A building costing \$15,000 was purchased for the purpose. Canon Duckworth and Dr. Norman Kerr have been active in this enterprise.

The Crown Prince of Germany arrived at Madrid on Friday. The streets were crowded with people. Many houses were gaily decorated. King Alfonso, wearing the uniform of Colonel of the Uhlans, met the Prince when he alighted from the train.

Advices from Zanzibar say that a French man-of-war bombarded the unfortified town of Vohemar, on the north of Madagascar, on the 8th inst., without giving any notice. Five British subjects were killed and much property belonging to neutrals destroyed or plundered.

Judge Cowing, of New York, created a panic a week or two since, among well to do liquor dealers, by sentencing three of them to imprisonment for violation of the excise laws. They had been in the habit of paying the fines and then renewing the offense.

Committees appointed by authority to represent the Episcopal, Presbyterian, Congregational, Methodist, Baptist and Reformed Churches of Ohio have decided to hold a convention in Columbus on December 6, for the purpose of organizing an Ohio Divorce Reform League.

The balloting for Rector of the University of St. Andrews has resulted in the election of James Russell Lowell, U. S. Minister, who defeated Right Hon. Edward Gibson, the Conservative member of Parliament for Dublin University, by 18 votes.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania holds that the Pullman Car Company is liable for the robbery of passengers sleeping at night in its cars, if this robbery occurs in consequence of the negligence of its servants. The company, as the Court holds, is bound to exercise all due diligence to prevent such robberies; and if it fails to do so, then it is liable for damages.

Last week came news that General Hicks and his entire army has been annihilated by El Mahdi, the False Prophet. A treacherous guide, it is said, led them to ruin. The rebels captured all the flags, the munitions of war and the camels. The panic at Khartoum is said to be increasing, owing to rumours that El Mahdi with a large force is advancing upon that city. A despatch says: "We only have food for a month. There are only two thousand men here to defend nearly four miles of lines of communication, he and population is a slumbering volcano. Col. Coetlogan sends word from Khartoum, dated Nov. 25th, that Mr. Villiers, artist of the London Graphic, is the sole survivor of the recent battle, and that he is a prisoner at El Obeid. Official accounts state that the force under Hicks' name numbered 10,500 men. With them were eight German and English officers. Orders have been received from the English Government to postpone the evacuation of Cairo by British troops."