

THE WESLEYAN.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1878.

EDUCATIONAL.

To the student of history-to one who traces with a curious eye, the gradual development of the human race. no field of research presents greater attractions than the rise and progress of Education. Rising in the night of the distant past, or in the twilight of antiquity, Learning, like "the Star of Empire," has ever been progressive in its course. It has ever led the van of the nations, conducting them to preeminence, as the star led the "wise men" to the new-born Saviour.

Any acquaintance with this subject however casual and cursory such acquaintance may be, will show, that among the earliest nations of antiquity, the education of the people was considered of the highest importance. In Greece especially, the education of vouth was more cultivated than in any other nation. Aided by the Grammarians and Philosophers of Athens, the Greeks acquired a complete mastery of their native language and of the general principles of moral philosophy. In fact, Athenian culture, considered merely as an intellectual discipline, has perhaps never been surpassed. In this respect it was far superior to the education which distinguished the Spartan youth, for that was mainly physical rather than mental. Feats of strength, tricks of skill, unflinching endurance; to hurl the discus farther than his fellows, to wield the javelin with more vigor and grace, and to endure voluntary pain with patience:-these were the objects sought in the education of a Spartan youth. It was reserved for these modern times, illuminated by Christian truth and suffused with the Christian spirit, to recognize education in its complex character, as including the moral element, not less than the physical and the mental.

meet the necessities of the case. As that decided progress is being made in Horace quaintly puts it: "Unless your | the several branches of learning, and cask is perfectly clean whatever you that the state of education generally, is pour into it turns sour." Is it not so? cheering and hopeful. The special Does not the quality of the heart trans- features, which stand out in salient mute and convert to its own use all the distinctness in the Report, deserve varied treasures of the mind? Let it be remembered, too, that any diversities in character which education creates, will be permanent, and carried with us into the life to come, and how much more important still does the moral aspect of this subject appear! According to the beautiful sentiment of the poet; -" In the temper of the invisible mind,

The godlike and undying intellect, There are distinctions that will live in heaven When Time is a forgotten circumstance. The elevated brow of kings will lose The impress of regalia, and the slave Will wear his immortality as free Beside the crystal waters; but the depth Of glory in the attributes of God Will measure the capacities of finite mind; And as the angels differ with the ken Of gifted spirits glorify him more.

But independently of this prospective advantage which will accrue from meral culture, it has been found that there have been present advantages attached to it of no mean importance. Not to speak of more than one, which Goldsmith has expressed in a single

"For just experience tells in every soil, That those who think must govern those that toil."

The world is indebted to a sanctified intelligence-to consecrated learningto the kindly sway of moral culture, more than many seem able or willing to appreciate. Reflect a moment: who are they to whom science and art and philosophy are most deeply indebted? Who are they that have shone out from the rest of mankind "distinct in their individuality," and with a lonely splendour? Not the crude and the uncultivated, but the trained intellects, the cultured minds, the educated natures of our race. Macaulay once wrote:--"Whatever be the languages, whatever be the sciences, which it is in any age or country the fashion to teach, the persons who become the greatest proficients in those languages, and those sciences, will generally be the flower of the youth; the most acute, the most industrious, the most ambitious of honor. able distinctions." Thus it is that culture brings out obscure genius to the

play of its powers. And does not such culture more than pay for itself? Indeed, as Professor Huxley says: "A Watt, a Davy, or a Faraday, would be cheap at £100,000." But society reaps other advantages from a rounded education, in its peace and security and general welfare. The late Edward Everett on one occasion, asserted as his opinion "that moral education is a bet ter safeguard of liberty than a standing army." And then he added, "If we retrench the wages of the schoolmaster we must raise those of the recruiting

From this view of the subject it folows that, to place a good, sound, rounded education within the reach of the masses is a noble aim, and a wise policy. Utilitarian, not less than moral reasons conspire to raise a cheap popular, and, perhaps, compulsory education to a national importance. The government of any country does well to take this department of public interest under its fostering care. It is wise to watch the spring and dawn of a nation's life, by cultivating the youthful mind, for who can tell what destinies may hang

"Our fates from unmomentous things May rise like rivers out of little springs." Besides, to open the gate-way of knowledge is one of the greatest and divinest charities. You not only make a man " the heir of all the ages," but you add the world to his possessions, until he

'For me your tributary stores combine Creation's heir, the world, the world is

METHODIST EDUCATIONAL WORK IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

It has just been our pleasure to peruse a very lucid and elaborate Report of the Methodist schools in Newfoundland. Considered merely as a presentation of facts and statistics, showing the state of our educational work in that colony, it reflects great credit upon the Superintendent of Education, Rev. Geo. S. Milligan, M. A., by whom it was prepared. From this Report it Such an education is of inestimable | would seem that the results of the past worth, and nothing less than this will year are more than usually gratifying, some notice, as they afford the data necessary to a just appreciation of our educational work there.

The statistics furnished show, that

there has been an increase in the attendyears, making a total for the present year of 4,630, or about one-seventh of the entire Methodist population. The teaching staff now number 90, being 19 more than last year. Nearly \$13 .-000 have been paid in salaries to teachers, which gives an average of less than \$144. Of course this sum is far too small, and offers a poor remuneration for services rendered; but it is gratifying to know, that a marked improvement is taking place in the amount of fees paid to teachers. Still. there is ample room yet for a larger increase; and it is to this source rather than to any hope of an additional grant from the Government that the friends of education must look, in order to increase the salaries of the teachers. The remedy lies in awakening a deeper and more general interest in education on the part of the parents and guardians of the pupils. Some degree of interest is already showing itself in improved school property, in new and commodious school houses, in a more ample and suitable apparatus, and in all that tends to facilitate a good and sound education. Indeed the superintendeut is greatly encouraged by the co-operation of the more enlightened portion of the Methodist people.

Gratifying as are these signs of success, peculiar difficulties exist in the way of more rapid progress. The Report expresses the fear that "the industrial habits of the colony will long interfere to prevent more than a measure of success." The superintendent further complains of a difficulty in persuading many parents to procure suitable books for their children, owing in some instances to a want of a proper appreciation of certain branches of learning, such as grammar, geography We presume that in all cases the circuits light, and furnishes theatre for the dis- and history. It is hoped however, that

year by year this difficulty will gradually disappear.

The superintendent is enthusiastic in his work, and this together with his known ability as an educationist, is a sufficient guarantee of his success. During the past year he has travelled more than 3000 miles in the systemaatic visitation of the schools under his care. And when it is considered how difficult are the means of travel in many. parts of Newfoundland, it will be seen how much fatigue is involved in the above figures. It seems to be a special aim on the part of the superintendent to stimulate the teachers, members of Boards, and other influential persons, to greater exertions for the promotion of education. The teachers especially are made an object of his care. He directs them in the prosecution of their studies, and drills them in the best methods and practice of teaching. We congratulate our friends in Newfoundland upon their good fortune in having the services of Mr. Milligan, and hope that the cause of education will continue under his fostering care, to pros-

EDITORIAL NOTES

A very graceful recognition of the services rendered to the Grafton St. Church. Halifax, by S. H. Black, Esq., and his bride, whose marriage we chronicled a few weeks ago, was reserved for them on their return from their bridal tour. A handsome service of plate, valued at \$150, with an address breathing affection and congratulation, were presented by the congregation.

It is more than humiliating to notice the mania for boat-racing which continues in St. John. The attention given to so exciting a subject by the daily papers of that city, does no little, we cannot help but think, toward keeping up this pas-Why do they not class them with other species of gambling, and thus take shelter behind the moral aspect of the thing? They report excitement, fighting, stabbing, &c., in connection with these occasions; what else can they expect when multitudes of gambling, drinking men are brought together? We wish down the occasion of these annual brawls

A spirited debate came off last week in the British House of Commons, caused by an application for an allowance to the Duke of Connaught. \$50,000 yearly was Sir Charles Dilke against appropriations pathy it is that of the good Queen Vic-

We observe by Charlottetown papers claims to that position. Originally a Methodist, and having in our London Mission House an illustrious brother-Rev. Ebenezer Jenkins of India fame; and being linked closely in true sympa. thy with a church which has done him and his much good and no harm, where else could he appear to better advantage than in a Metropolitan Methodist pulpit?

Our Hymn Book Committee at Quebec seems to have closed its work on last Saturday. There was evidently heavy employment, We await promised information from a reliable source.

The Marquis of Lorne, the husband of Princess Louise, is to be our next Governor General. Lord Dufferinit was thought at one time was to remain another year, but it is now concluded that a son of the Duke of Argyle shall be Governor General of Canada. This unites the royalty of England and the noblest chieftainship of Scotland in the rule of our young nation.

By a vote of the N. B. and P. E. Island Conference, it was decided that the Ger. eral Conference collection shall be taken up in all our congregations on the second Sabbath in August, and remitted immediately to the President of the Confercnce, Rev. Jeseph Hart. By order

H. P. COWPERTHWAITE,

Journal Sec'y. The same applies to the Nova Scotia Conference, with the exception that the amounts are to be handed over at the Financial Districts to the Chairmen, and by them sent, with full lists for publication, to the Book Steward immediately. and their collections will be published.

Our effort to re-arrange the reading of we had anticipated, owing to the want of the inside pages has been interfered with this week by a misunderstanding on the part of the "imposing" foreman We rangement shortly.

The murder case at Dorchester proceeds slowly in trial. The medical men connected with the investigation have been once more examined, but nothing new has been disclosed. The Court proceeded in a body to Shediac, to see for themselves the scene of the fearful tragedy. It is supposed that new evidence is held in reserve, which will help the de-

CORRESPONDENCE.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

For the information of all intending visitors at the General Conference the following reduced rates of Montreal Hotels are announced:

Windsor Hotel, Dominion Square, \$2 per day for all delegates and for clerical

St. Lawrence Hall, St. James St., \$1.50 per day. Visitors to produce certificates from the Secretary of Conference of their | now working, and which it is of great imattendance at Conference.

Ottawa Hotel, St. James Street, European plan, Rooms 50 cents per day. Visitors to produce certificates as above. Albion Hotel, North Gill St., \$1.50 per

Temperance Hotel, St. Henry Street, \$1

It is probable that rooms will be available in several private boarding houses at \$1 per day. Enquiries relative thereto may be addressed to the undersigned within 8 or 10 days of the opening of Confer-

The above favorable arrangements are made with the hope that many will avail themselves of the privilege of attending the second session of the General Conference, which is likely to be one of very great

Commutation rates with Railroad and Steamboat Companies will be announced as soon as possible.

Ample billetting accommodation is available for delegates both clerical and lay, in private houses, and the committee are striving to observe as far as possible the express wishes of delegates relative to their billets. WM./I. SHAW,

PORTLAND, ST JOHN. INTEREST.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,-As the columns of our Conference organ will now be in a measure relieved of the pressure of Conference reports, &c., perhaps you could spare set apart as his grant: a remonstrance by a corner in which to record a few gettings. pertaining to affairs in this portion of to members of the Royal family, met with | John Wesley's parish. We noticed that a support of only 33 votes against 320. If you did not even refer (the want of room ance of pupils of 969 over previous any royal household ever deserved sym- doubtless being the cause) to an event of much importance to the Methodists of this place, and very fully reported in the St. John papers, the laying of the corner stone of the Methodist church now in that Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Presbyterian, of course of erection, which took place on Montreal has been occupying there the the 19th ultimo, the ceremony being per-Methodist pulpit. The Doctor has fair formed by his Honor Governor Tilley. The day being delightfully fine a large number gathered to witness the proceedings, including the President of the Conference, all the members of the St. John District, and several ministers of other denominations. The exercises in connection with the ceremony were of a very interesting character. The proceedings were begun by the choir led by J. L. Woodworth, Esq., singing the 540th hymn, after which the Rev. D. McLellan, Baptist minister, offered an appropriate prayer. The Superintendent of the Circuit in a brief address introduced his Honor the Governor. A silver trowel was presented to him by James Harris, Esq., chairman of the building committee, and the ceremony immediately performed. The hymn beginning, "Thou who hast in Zion laid." &c., was announced by Rev. J. S. Phinney and sung by [the choir. His Honor the Governor then delighted the audience with an interesting address, in which touching reference was made to some of the pioneer Methodist preachers in this Province with whom he had been acquainted, many of them having passed away to their eternal rest. President, now ex-President Prince, was in his happiest mood, and in a very neat and finished address referred to the grand old Methodist doctrines which would be preached in the building in course of erection, and encouraged the Methodists of Portland to persevere in the noble work in which they are engaged. Brethren Barratt, Hart, Sprague, Ackman, McLellan, Chappell, and William Elder. Esq., also gave pleasing and appropriate addresses. The Doxology was sung, the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. Wm. Allen, and the interesting proceedings God, or its equivalent."

brought to a close. Since the period referred to the work of building has not progressed as rapidly as but was still in the gall of bitterness, no bet-

a particular kind of building material. Steady progress is however being made, and we are looking hopefully forward to hope to effect a more systematic ar- the not very distant times when we will be able to worship in the basement of the new edifice.

The lack of sufficient means to carry on the work—together with the exceedingly "hard times," rendering it difficult to procure money—is much felt and calculated to seriously cripple the trustees in their efforts to put the new church in such a condition as will make it comfortable for the worshippers during the coming winter. Realizing the truthfulness of the sentiment that " the Lord helps those that help themselves," our people are strenuously exerting themselves and putting forth every legitimate effort to obtain the object of their ardent desire. Our noble hearted ladies have heroically advanced to the front, and with a magnanimity beyoud all praise are shrinking from no labour nor yielding to any discouragements. Will not the Methodist ladies in every part of this Dominion, and also in Newfoundland sympathize with them and practically exhibit their sympathy by aiding them in the BAZAR for which they are portance to make a success. Any contributions in money or useful articles will be thankfully received, and kindness shown in this way will be thoroughly appreciated. We are very slow to believe that our appeals will be indifferently received, or that a deaf ear will be turned to our cries for

Our Sunday School pic-nic was held last week, and to the great joy of all concerned, proved a grand succe-s. After all expenses in connection therewith had been paid, a very respectable amount was handed to the Treasurer of the Church building Fund. I cannot close this already too prolix epistle without referring to the noble hearted generosity of the brethren of the N. S. Conference, who gave me over \$100 to help us in our time of need. Many of the brethren of the N. B. & P. E. I Conference also in this way exhibited brotherly love and kindness of heart.

Apologizing for the length of this article, I remain,

Faithfully yours, Portland, St. John, July 29, 1878.

[We awaited direct information from Portland, which we considered sure to come, and which would be more satisfactory than any brief reference.—EDITOR.

"BAPTISMAL DIFFICULTIES."

MR. EDITOR,-I have of late observed in your Paper, and others, reports of a number of cases of sun-stroke, and I beg leave to call your attention to another influence affecting some very seriously-I will not undertake to say whether they are moon-struck or under some other powerful influence-all affected have water on the brain, and appear to loose the sight of one eye, and see but one side of things. Allow me to give a case which appears under the heading "Baptismal Difficul-

ties," in the Baptist organ, looked at with

one eve :-after expressing much sympa-

thy for those who practice Infant Bap-

He says, "one point has, we believe, never been defined by any Pedobaptist Church, that is, the age at which bapism is to be administered to persons, as infants, and when the young person is sufficiently far advanced to be regarded as an adult." As there are very many "Baptismal Difficulties" on the subject as taught and practiced, I think the learned gentleman, if he had not lost the sight of an eye, would have seen quite as great a difficulty" in his own practice, for bad as it is to baptize an infant (our friends do sometimes baptize children) have they ever defined," at what age the infant becomes an adult, at what time in life faith may be so exercised as to entitle to believer baptism, and if a mistake should be made it would be a serious "difficulty," for if a child be baptized too young, or even an adult baptized on the profession of faith, that had not been exercised, how very great would be the evil. Churches not intending it, will then be found communing with such as have not received believers baptism. I think it will be admitted that such mistakes have, and may be made.

Another "difficulty": if such came to believe, would they be re-baptised, or suffered to die without receiving believers'

The "definition" did not appear to be a "difficulty" with our Saviour. He received infants and little children into his arms, laid his hands on them and blessed them, though the disciples rebuked.

The learned Editor expresses thankfulness that they have avoided the "difficulties" into which others have fallen, and says: "The only declaration we need is, I believe, that Jesus Christ is the Son of

"And are there no "difficulties" here: Simon Magus believed and was baptized,

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