

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.

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.

Such an education is of inestimable worth, and nothing less than this will meet the necessities of the case.

"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.

But independently of this prospective advantage which will accrue from moral culture, it has been found that there have been present advantages attached to it of no mean importance.

The world is indebted to a sanctified intelligence—to consecrated learning—to the kindly sway of moral culture, more than many seem able or willing to appreciate.

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."

From this view of the subject it follows that, to place a good, sound, rounded education within the reach of the masses is a noble aim, and a wise policy.

"Our fates from unmomentous things May rise like rivers out of little springs."

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.

The statistics furnished show, that there has been an increase in the attendance of pupils of 969 over previous years, making a total for the present year of 4,630, or about one-seventh of the entire Methodist population.

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 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.

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.

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.

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 passion.

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 set apart as his grant: a remonstrance by Sir Charles Dilke against appropriations to members of the Royal family, met with a support of only 33 votes against 320.

We observe by Charlottetown papers that Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Presbyterian, of Montreal has been occupying there the Methodist pulpit. The Doctor has fair claims to that position.

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 Dufferin it was thought at one time was to remain another year, but it is now concluded that a son of the Duke of Argyll shall be Governor General of Canada.

By a vote of the N. B. and P. E. Island Conference, it was decided that the General Conference collection shall be taken up in all our congregations on the second Sabbath in August, and remitted immediately to the President of the Conference, Rev. Joseph Hart. By order H. P. COWPERTHWAITTE, Journal Sec'y.

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Our effort to re-arrange the reading of the inside pages has been interfered with this week by a misunderstanding on the part of the "imposing" foreman. We hope to effect a more systematic arrangement 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.

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 visitors. St. Lawrence Hall, St. James St., \$1.50 per day. Visitors to produce certificates from the Secretary of Conference of their attendance at Conference.

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 Conference.

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 interest.

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

Ample billeting 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, Secretary, 22 Windsor St. Montreal.

PORTLAND, ST. JOHN. INTERESTING CEREMONY.

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 a corner in which to record a few gettings, pertaining to affairs in this portion of John Wesley's parish. We noticed that you did not even refer (the want of room 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 cornerstone of the Methodist church now in course of erection, which took place on the 19th ultimo, the ceremony being performed by his Honor Governor Tilley.

we had anticipated, owing to the want of a particular kind of building material. Steady progress is however being made, and we are looking hopefully forward to 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 Sunday School picnic was held last week, and to the great joy of all concerned, proved a grand success. Afters 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.

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 lose the sight of one eye, and see but one side of things.

He says, "one point has, we believe, never been defined by any Pedobaptist Church, that is, the age at which baptism 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 had 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-baptized, or suffered to die without receiving believers' baptism? 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.