PREMIUM

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THE WESLEYAN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1881.

DEPARTING.

When Christmas has put its bright seal upon the year we prepare to number it with the ages of the past. Youth and beauty stretch out the hand to greet the coming year; business men prepare their announcements of changing partnerships and pursuits; the preacher goes to his study to formulate counsels fitting to the new departure, and even the sexton, whose bell, during the reign of the old year, has sounded forth lessons of life's brevity, more impressive than many from preachers' lips, is waiting at once to sound the knell of that year's departure and to announce the arrival of its successor.

Let us not too hastily dismiss the old year. It is going, but lips now ruddy and tongues now chatty may never declare it "gone." That mystic word may be used in relation to many who shall only see a coming year in some such fashion as Moses saw the promised land from a summit of Mount Nebo. Counsels for the old year are therefore yet opportune. It may be, indeed, that new plans and purposes cherished may have served to remind us how many good resolutions have been made andforgotten. What then? Shall these be transferred to the coming year? Some of them may be-perhaps must be. But other purposes—and among these are the most important-cannot with safety be placed for a day on the list of "deferred business," "I will lend you a book" was the reply of a too freeand-easy pastor to an inquirer who had asked of him the way of salvation.' "But what if I should die before I can read it," was the suggestive answer. In like manner he should ask who is postponing the settlement of questions relating to eternity to Sunday next, or even to the watch-night service of the Saturday evening, "What if I should die before the appointed time shall come?" From Him who offers salvation and eternal glory, these highest blessings may be definitely accepted at once. This best work has often been done under high pressure. When moments are numbered we often make the best of them. We are spending serious moments. Let us use them with Divine help to do undone work. Out of the great deeps that wrap us around voices seem to say "Behold I come quickly." "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

COMING.

the usual greetings to our readers, the plausible theories to elevate her. We great majority of them-we dare not | are convinced that the officers and memsay all-will have crossed the threshold bers of the Committee of the lately of a new year. Youth will be full of formed Woman's Missionary Society of gladness, while maturer age will prompt the Methodist Church of Canada can do many to peer with dim eyes into its an important work for their sisters at misty recesses. Let us not err at the home, and for their less favored sisters first step. Let us look up, not down. abroad, by an earnest effort in the early "On the first day of the year," said the months of 1882 to form branches of ancient law-giver, "shalt thou set up the Society in all the cities, towns thy tabernacle." On the first day of and villages of the Dominion where the year should the child of God see such an organization may be susthat the anchor of his hope is really cast tained. Many workers can be found "within the vail." Ere it closes all whose happiness and health would be doubt and indistinctness should be re- benefitted by their service at home; moved. Sabbath stillness, and the ac- many women, even, in humble circumcustomed Covenant service may help stances, of whom to-day the Church- ature of the day: "This, at least is some weak, discouraged soul, to whom | not at all to their benefit - asks nothing, true; no parents ought to complain of the ordinary festivities of the day would gladly contribute to the funds of the men who furnish his children with might prove a temptation. On that the Woman's Foreign Missionary Soci- demoralizing reading, so long as he himday the man who prays should get the ety; and who can doubt that among the self fails to provide them with good 5' close grip." From the mercy-seat he daughters of Canadian Methodists the reading. Something the active young

should go forth with no vague hope that some time his prayer may be answered, but with the conviction, so finely put into words by good Paul Gerhardt,

If what I wish is good,
And suits the will divine,
By earth and hell in vain withstood,
I know it shall be mine.

Noble resolutions are being written on the fair blank page of 1882. But if prayerless they shall be powerless, and the confidence reposed in them will prove but a snare and a delusion. Per-WE offer as a premium for the WESLEYAN formance does not follow promise as a for 1882, a most interesting and excellmatter of course; hence "hell may be paved with good resolutions."

Strength and wisdom will be needed by the Christian through the coming year. No year has ever approached YORKSHIRE METHODISM, with a clearer demand for pure lives, public honesty, business integrity, a determination to place all our public schemes of business or of education upon the basis of that righteousness which exalts a nation. The very wave of prosperity which is flowing towards us makes it the more necessary that the Christian should ever keep within hailing distance of heaven.

The man who starts well in the new year will bless others. Avoiding for his own part "the parched places in the wilderness, the salt land not inhabited," he will make others see the bright spots in this much-abused world; and carrying out his Master's purposes, will allure them to brighter worlds, or if before its close the Master beckon him away, the day of the departure will be the beginning of the grand Sabbatic year. Never was there a deeper meaning to a Christian worker in Punshon's later words-" the rapture of living "than to-day; never, on the other hand. has there been more music in the voice from heaven which still repeats,-" Blessed are the dead which die in the

WOMAN'S WORK FOR WOMAN.

Those esteemed ladies who have been appointed to lead their Methodist sisters in the Canadian Dominion in "expecting great things" and in "accomplishing great things" in behalf of their heathen sisters are to be ranked among those whose toil begins at the third hour of the day. Others have entered the field before them and have gathered sheaves, thereby at once showing them the path and beckoning them on to equal effort and like success.

Both as an helper at home and as an agent abroad woman has long played an important part in the mission work of English Methodism, though her hare in the toil and success has less definitely marked than by our American Methodist neighbors. If, however, we may judge from recent announcements, it is probable that in future the sphere of woman's work in behalf of woman will be more definitely outlined by our English brethren. That it should be so is but a natural result of the conviction everywhere gaining ground that the great force of heathenism in the East is in its complete control and seclusion of woman, who must therefore be reached, if at all, by devoted and self-denving missionaries of her own sex. Less affected by a certain sort of conservatism the Methodist women of America have entered upon their work with a degree of selfassertion which has already enabled them to send a rapidly increasing number of educated agents to India, China, and Japan, whose success in zenana visiting, educational work, and medical attendance upon their own sex, has been most readily reported by the Bishops of the Church on their successive visits.

In missionary and temperance efforts woman has been both blessed and made a blessing. In the service of God and in behalf of the lost, at home and abroad, hitherto undeveloped energies are finding exercise, and she is rising without protest or hindrance to a position of influence to which certain "strong-minded" women and extremists of both Before next week's mail can convey sexes have sought in vain by various

Great Head of the Church will find for his great work women second to none in their devotion, qualifications and success. Let it not be forgotten that the lady whose successful treatment of the wife of the Chinese viceroy has led to the establishment of a large hospital for Chinese female patients, and has called attention everywhere to the value of female missionaries, is a native of Canada, though sent out under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States.

LITERARY DANGER

Too much care cannot be taken in reference to the literature passing into the hands of our youth. A shop window may display such trashy illustrated papers as to render a visit from the police quite as necessary as if "best Cognac or "real Old Tom" were advertised there, with other abominations behind them. The young man who enters upon the sale of books and papers has before him the temptation to become a greater panderer to evil than he who avails himself of a grocer's license to sell liquor. Few can imagine the evil that may be done-the ever-growing evilby an unhallowed book or paper. One of the three lads recently sent to the Arkansas penitentiary for seventy years for train-robbing, said during the trial. "We read about the James' boys in the papers and books, and saw how easy it was to rob trains and get away, and decided to rob a train." One of the three a young man of engaging manners and appearance, and of more than ordinary intelligence, died six weeks since in the penitentiary from home-sickness. From his entrance into the prison, he appeared to be heart-broken, and all efforts to relieve him failed. The prison physician could find no physical disease about him and the evidence of a settled despair was unmistakable. A similar cause for crime was alleged by several Canadian youths who, a few months since, fitted out a boat for piracy on the lakes, and by two boys in Illinois who wrecked a train. Of the first of these cases a St. Louis paper says: "In the seasons of delirium which preceded his death this young man kept repeating portions of chapters of trashy novels, in which acts of daring and knives and revolvers figured freely. They were not merely occasional ut. terances, but formed a continuous narrative, which fully occupied his delirious moments. His mind was possessed of this miserable stuff to the exclusion of everything else. It certainly does not savor of clap-trap to connect the I can't translate this." In telling the ime for which the dead man was convicted with the influence of the literary poison he had soaked himself with. s a fair inference to conclude that there

that it may justly be placed there." Were we confident that we could gain their eye we should urge upon all who have to cater for the mental tastes of the public the necessity of care. A sailor while on trial for life confessed that he had been led into a career of crime through the reading of an article upon "noted pirates" that appeared in a magazine which is ordered through most respectable agents and bears the imprint of well-known British publishers. We are not sure that some of our own secular journals have not of late occasionally tried how near the edge of the bank they could drive without positively going over. It is by no means necessary that the people of any community should be made familiar through the press with the details of every scandal which may take place in their neighborhood; local gossips will do that only too well. As a rule, nothing should go into their columns that would lead a father to regret that he had taken a copy of the evening paper from his pocket and placed it

was an intimate relation between the

two; that it was a clear case of cause and

effect. If he had been a man of dulled

emotional perceptions, or an habitual

criminal, the force of the connection

would be lost, but the single crime fits

so well upon the appropriate preparation

upon his table. We have no disposition to disparage the secular press. On the contrary we attach to it a high value. We mark its success, its publication of religious items or of Sunday-school lessons, with pleasure, but this does not prevent us from agreeing fully with the N. Y. Methodist when it says "The truth is, a religious paper is a necessity for decent housekeeping, and probably worth many times more than its cost in its influence upon other expenditure," or from endorsing the remarks of the same journal in relation to the corrupting liter-

minds crave, and they will get it. It is too often the parents' fault that they get poison where they seek food."

CALVINISM AND THE HEA-THEN.

One has only to glance at the earlier

volumes of Wesley's Arminian Magaz

ine to learn how much more modest the adherents of the Calvinistic creed have become in their statements of doctrine. In the pulpit of Surrey Chapel, where Rowland Hill, Wesley's Calvinistic antagonist, used to make such startling assertions, the writer heard one of his most gifted successors. Newman Hall, say, in reference to the often-asserted difference between a general and a special "call," that he "would rather be an infidel than believe that." Our glance was instinctively turned towards the tablet in the rear of the pulpit, bearing Rowland Hill's name, but it was silent. Wesley and he have clearer light ere his. Not more marked, however, is the change in the declaration from many other pulpits of the Gospel message. Occasionally we are treated to a statement of the "Five Points." or a part at least of them, but only in such a way as to remind us that the ground is still held, as does the military sentry on one day in each year when he disputes our passage across the lands of the War Department, by way of asserting continued proprietorship.

Those remarks have reference only to Gospel work at home; the N. Y. Independent makes some statements respecting the silence of Calvinistic ministers abroad which have been read with surprise, almost prompting the question whether a sort of mental reservation may not be practised in more quarters than one:

When Dr. Legge, of the London Missionary Society, had been Working for some time in Hong Kong and had got a number of converts it seemed to be ime to have the Westminster Catechism translated, and he got the help of his preacher and teacher to put it into Chiese. The work proceeded very nicely until they came to Qu. 20th, the answer

"God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity selected some everlasting afe, did enter into a venant of grace to deliver them out the estate of sin and misery and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

his pen, with the words: "I can't translate that." "Why not?" asked Mr. Legge. "Because," said he, "we have been preaching that anybody might come and be saved, and this says that only these can who have been elected. story. Dr. Legge concludes by saving "I put the Catechism upon a shelf and there it stays. When Dr. Burns, the distinguished Free Church of Scotland missionary to China was once askel What do you do with Calvinism in China?" he replied: "I don't say anything about it. The Chinese don't need And we believe he was a genu ine Calvinist as well as a grand evangelist.

The January number of the Missionary Outlook is already on our table. Its appearance is attractive; its matter excellent. In one lively paragraph the

Wesley defined an enthusiast as one who expects the end without using the means. The end we expect is the universal sympathy and co-operation of our people in missionary work; the means we use are one or two sermons and a Missionary meeting in the course of a year. This is trying to build a pyramid small end downwards. We must construct a broader base if we expect to ing once a month, and a rousing missionary sermon once a quarter, would be a great help—to the preacher as well as the people. Then supplement this by scattering Missionary information broadcast. "Keep it before then, it is in cases where readers would

And in another, having referred to

those who have hitherto done nothing Will Missionary collectors kindly make a note of this, and when canvassing their respective districts see that every one gets a call. There are a vast number of dead-heads in the Methodist Church, and it would be a great blessing to themselves and to the Church if they could be brought into line. Giving to God's cause is a religious duty, as sacred as prayer or praise, and no one can prosper spiritually who neglects it.

A wide circulation of the Outlook would soon rouse slumberers in our churches, and prompt all to active effort.

One marks at the recurrence of festive seasons the progress of Temperance principles. Many a Christian woman now wonders how she could ever have been so blind as to devote a part of the first day in each year to tempting her callers to become topers. Is any Methodist lady placed in a position where she shrinks from doing right in this matter? We commend to her thoughtful perusal the words which Theodore Cuyler puts into the lips of St. Nicholas as no appeal for help had been made we drill in elecution.

as a part of his New Year's message :-"Let me tell you that I never saw a New Year begun over a bottle of liquor that turned out well. And I never saw the husbands and the sons perfectly free from habits of drink when the wife or the mother is accustomed to set out the glass. And another thing I have seen, and that is, an army of tipplers who got their first glass from the hands of a lady! You have no moral right to tempt another woman's husband or beloved boy to ruin. Our heavenly Father has given you enough good things for your hospitable boards without bottling up damnation for your guests."

Some of our contemporaries are complaining that Nova Scotia has not now as formerly any Bureau of Vital Statistics. No regular registration of births, marriages and deaths has taken place since 1877. In the meantime a considerable sum is being paid in the way pensions to those formerly engaged this work. The importance of correct vital statistics can scarcely be overrated. The welfare of individuals may be promoted to a very large extent by facts of this kind carefully preserved, and the public weal may be aided by the publication of such facts as our statistics would seem to sustain. The British colonies in America have been much indebted in the past to the healthy character given to them in various parts of Britain through the comparison of the annual death-rate among the British troops stationed here with that of those quartered in the various garrisons throughout the world. Steps should be taken to re-establish the Bureau.

The prospect of successful work in the United States is unusually cheering. Says the N. Y. Methodist: "We have not in any former recent year noticed so many reports of revivals as are coming in this autumn. The fires are burning brightly in isolated churches all over the land. We anticipate a general awakening. It is certain to follow plain, earnest, pointed and practical preaching aimed at the conversion of sinners. Suffer us to caution some against using up a month in effort to warm a cold church. Tiring congregations out in that way seldom bears fruit. Strike home at the conscience of the sinner; his cry for salvation will rouse The preacher began it, but threw down the church more than a month of your

> A little pamphlet, entitled-Three Hundred Topics for Prayer Meetings, for 1882, is published by the International use of "Pastors, Association Secretaries and others active in Christian work.' One topic is given for each day, Sundays excepted. This little pamphlet, costing only five cents a copy, is calculated to assist all such workers. Many a pastor, going out to spend an afternoon in pastoral visitation, might glance at the topic and the Scripture lesson connected with it, and during his walk group around these some precious practical thoughts for his evening prayermeeting. It can be ordered from R. C. Morse, cor. 23rd St. and 4th Ave., must have been highly gratified at the New York.

> The Northwestern Advocate occasionally schools its correspondents. is one of its latest lessons: "Some correspondents say, 'I want you to print this item just as I send it.' If you please, we will do no such thing-in every instance. We will give the facts as stated, if it is possible to ascertain them from the letter. A moment's on "Is Life Worth Living," philosophithought will show that we must edit our cal. Miss Taylor and Miss Johnson denews, and if we make an error now and be misled if we print 'just as sent.' "

Mr. D. McGregor, 145, Hollis Street, has commenced the publication of the Maritime Literary Review, the January number of which is on our table. His intention is to furnish in its columns from month to month a review of the best books and periodicals. His enterprise deserves encouragement.

HOW DID HE KNOW?

On Thanksgiving Day an unknown friend at Truro placed on the collection plate the sum of five dollars "for a Mission Boat at Port Simpson." This sum was at once forwarded to the Conference Treasurer, who had never heard that a mission boat was needed at Port Simpson, but who, nevertheless, sent on the money to Dr. Sutherland, the Missionarv Secretary. From the Outlook we learn that the message borne to our Truro friend by some bird of the air was quite correct. Dr. Sutherland

We have known for some time that also made a short address compliment such a boat is very much needed; but | ing Miss Wilson on the results of her

were a little surprised by the reception of the contribution. We can only suppose that the good Lord has put it into the heart of our Nova Scotia brother to set the ball rolling, and we earnest. ly hope that his example may induce many others to lend a helping hand.

The Mission work in Port Simpson District is entirely among the Indiana The bands are scattered along a vast extent of coast line, and it is imperatively necessary for the chairman to make ong and frequent voyages up and down the coast, up the rivers, and into the deep inlets that penetrate the country for great distances. Hitherto the voy ages have been made in one of the large canoes of the country, a mode of travel which involves great toil and risk. Something better and safer i needed, and it would be a fine thing if Bro. Crosby could take with him, when he returns to Simpson, sufficient to purchase a suitable boat.

A small steam vessel would be of im mense service. Not only would it enable the chairman to visit all the scattered tribes on the coast, but also to extend his journeys to the Hydahs on Queen Charlotte's Islands, some seventy or eighty miles off the coast. At other times it could be utilized in freighting supplies to the various Mission stations thus greatly lessening the cost, and in conveying building material to any point where it might be advisable to erect school houses or churches.

If sufficient cannot be secured to purchase a small steamer, the next best arrangement will be the purchase of a good sized sail boat, though the great violence of the winds, and the sudden. ness with which they rise, makes sailing in those latitudes very dangerous. We are scarcely prepared at present to say what the cost would be in either case; but we will make further enquiry and perhaps return to the subject next month

THE LADIES ACADEMY.

The Mount Allison Institutions at Sackville, N, B. have just closed a very successful term. The following is condensed from the Sackville papers, in regard to the terminal exhibition of the Ladies' Academy. As many Sackville citizens as could find room, were present at Lingley Hall. A better natured or better gratified audience, never appeared anywhere. The Mount Allison voung ladies never appeared to better advantage. The gloom and darkness of the outside world was charmingly contrasted by the splendor, freshness and light within. The following was the

PROGRAMME:

.-DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES. 2.—Music Jubel Overture.....(Weber)

9.—RECITATION—Kenan's Last Charge

16.—Addresses.

17.-MUSIC-Chorus Good-night......

Every number in this ample and well arranged programme was performed. The instrumental music was executed with spirit and accuracy. Prof. Cranz enthusiasm displayed over the musical selections. The singing class was large and the choruses were better than usual, which is high commendation. All the solos and duetts on the programme were well received, as they deserved to be. The literary portion of the exercises was varied; the essays were carefully prepared and well read; that of Miss Pearce on "Memories" showed originality and the matter was well conceived. Miss Cole, on the "Poets Laureate," was crudite, and Miss Flinn, bated a burning question: which is the more destructive, overwork or worry. The discussion was energetic and sharp; the arguments on both sides were clear and well presented. The recitations were of a high order. Miss E. Shenton made a good impression in the "Christmas Carol." Misses Willis and Mounce put a good deal of spirit and feeling in their selections from Shakespeare. Special mention is due to the rendition of that most difficult selection, "Henry Fourth's Appeal to " Facile princeps among the reciters was Miss Bishop's number, "The Last Hymn." A hearty encore drowned the voice of Dr. Kennedy, who tried to announce the next piece. The audience

were speaking in their own mother tongue. The Principal, Dr. Kennedy, reported that there had been an attendance of 75, and that 29 of these were in the first rank. Everything had gone well; hard work had been done, and most gratifying results shown by the examinations. Complimentary remarks were made by the Rev. Jonathan Borden and the Rev. Job Shenton. Rev. Dr. Pickard

refused to be conciliated by Miss

Bishop's prettiest bow, nothing less

would do than a repetition of the piece.

The French dialogue was good. The

audience took as much interest in it as

if they understood every word. The

actors were as natural as though they

The Studio ing the exam many, and all arts agree in and skill dis The next

1882. A lar -Com. WEEK The Execu angelical All

lowing prog of the annua Sunday, F course : Monday, the blessing the past year tinuance. Tuesday, confession cial and nat

Wednesda blessing of Word. Thursday young and Priday, d wersal prev gousness. Saturday tian Missic Hely Spirit

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Advise øne good re to take the

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On Thur ing event our esteem ner, Esq. Gardner ce weather, number of bled at the their prese ble couple. tended to e talities of t and munific well known a century, ter above r foremost in material an ed with the nity.

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