THE WESLEYAN, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1883.

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longing to ours it simply

tory has not been accomplished."

they are so much the more bound to

This is true, and we commend the

statement to their consideration, as-

serting meanwhile that no mercenary

consideration, but only the welfare of

we suggest that sympathy may be

guarantee us against financial loss.'

UNION MOVES ON.

An Ontario paper speaks of a reaction in favor of Union. It is doubtful whether any such reaction has taken place. From the first, we believe, the great majority of the laymen of the Methodist Church of Canada have regarded Methodist Union those dependent upon them, has prompted the expression of fear in as a measure about which there could many quarters. On the other hand scarcely be two opinions. It is, however, not only possible but probable checked and regard may be lessened that strong utterances of opposition by a lingering too far in the rear. Of through conventions and the press have tended to elicit from them a the readiness of our laity to help in every good word and work the past more emphatic expression of opinion has shown many instances. They well than would otherwise have been given. Of this the meeting of the laymen of know that their pastors are not merour three churches at Brantford, Ont., cenary. Our Educational Institutions a few days since furnishes an illustraare a monument to Chas. F. Allison our Home Mission Fund, now mergtion. There, nearly fifty laymen passed the Basis, and then by a unanied in General Conference funds, was mous vote thanked the much-abused the result of an interview between Committee for the ability and wisdom two citizens of Halifax, one a man of shown in its preparation. A dispatch wealth, the other a man of deep legal given elsewhere shows that this supknowledge. Our College Endowment port of Union is not an index to a has called forth noble gifts made by mere local feeling, but is indicative of men during their lives, and not in a much more general determination their last will and testament ; and we than even the friends of union dared believe nothing will so conduce to real, practical generosity on the part hope. We note the fact with pleasure not of our brethren of the laity as their

unmingled with regret. In any ad- presence at our Annual Conferences. vance movement pastors and people | The communications of our ministers should march side by side. The place have shown their fears; we commend serious thought upon them to of the former is not at the rear, and if by any mischance they are found our Christian laymen. At the same time we may add that we recently there, the Church must suffer loss. Each day, however, brightens the prosoverheard a minister, regarded as one of our best financiers, make the pect that, in spite of dark forebodings and gloomy predictions, the great remark that no one can tell the prebody of the ministry will be found at cise influence of Union upon our fithe post of honor. nances, and that recent knowledge of

The minister who may be dispossome facts respecting some of the ed to marshal his official memseveral uniting bodies had relieved bers at the rear will undertake a his mind of serious doubts. That difficult task. At a day when minister, by-the-bye, can scarcely be even the farmer is learning that quoted as a declared unionist. business may better be done by companies than by smaller bodies the wis-MOUNT ALLISON. dom of the union of scattered branches of a great Church, differing only The continued pressure on our colon some points of polity, is scarcely umns, with the modesty of some of questioned. And to any business the managers at Mount Allison, has man who can distinguish between prevented recent notice of our Educapartnership and absorption the protional Institutions. One of the most nosed basis cannot but commend itse interesting events has been the openby its evident fairness and careful reing during the first week in January gard for the views of even the weakest of the new Male Academy, an illusof the consenting parties. The same trated description of which was remay be said of the General Superincently given. To the large number tendency. A carefully-guarded supassembled, after religious services had erintendency is only the application of been conducted by the Rev. Dr. Stewa principle in Church work which obart. Rev. Dr. Pickard gave, as few or tains in the management of nations. none could give, a sketch of the In education, business, in fact, every stitution from its formation through where. That a minister should object the beneficence of Chas. F. Allison, to this, and speak in defiant tones of a Esq. At the close of the address, the proposed visit to his circuit only leads Rev. J. S. Phinney, President of the a thoughtful layman to look and-N. B. and P. E. I. Conference, forwonder. Nor will he be alarmed by mally dedicated the building to the any of those terrible possibilities service of God in the work of Chriswhich some affect to see in what they tian education under the auspices term Episcopacy, when it exists in the of the Methodist Church of Canada. absence of a life term and a special Principal Paisley's address was an ordination, and with limitations which able statement in reference to the incannot easily be set aside. And for tellectual and moral training which the life of him that layman cannot see it will be the constant effort of the how, were it possible for him to be managers to impart. Other speakers President of an Annual Conference, on the occasion were Dr. Inch, Preshe would be "degraded" by the preident of the College, Revs. Dr. Stewsence of a General Conference official. art and Kennedy, and Rev. J. Cas-We can by no means agree with those sidy. The Principal and his staff may who regard Lay Delegation in the well be congratulated on the ample Annual Conferences as a great attracfacilities for carrying on their work. tion to laymen. Few of them, we We are not at all surprised to learn believe, have desired it, and that idea that a large number of students is in of a rush to the Annual Conference attendance. A description of the which is to cut up our present Connew Memorial Hall has for some time ferences into scores, only creates a been awaiting space for insertion. From quiet smile on their part. But to beg a local paper we learn that the contract them to stay out, or to bar the door for its erection has already been against their entrance, or even to disawarded. LOY cuss that course is another thing. The Our readers will have learned that Methodist layman who sees his Presthe hand of an incendiary threatened byterian brother or his Baptist neighdestruction to the present College bor accompanying their respective building, a blow which was happily pastors to annual ecclesiastical gatheraverted after a loss of three hundred ings will not easily see why he should dollars on the burned gymnasium, and be obliged to stay at home or take a a further loss of two hundred dollars seat below the bar of the Conference. through injury to college and furni-Had English Methodist leaders been ture. In the light of this event the more ready to make concessions which decision of the Governors to erect the they were finally forced to make, we new building with stone will be seen should not now have an ado about to be wise. the healing of breaches in the Colon-When we add that an unusually ies. Even Mr. Kettlewell's elaborate figures have been discussed by laymen. large number of pupils is in attendance at the Ladies' Academy, our and quietly laid aside with the rereaders need not be told that a good mark that the losses following union degree of prosperity is being enjoyed with the New Connexion took place at a period of business depression by our workers at Sackville. In view which prostrated many a Methodist of the past successes of Mount Allilayman and supplied him with sad son students, we quote words uttered memories for a lifetime. In similar at Wesley College, Sheffield, England, by Mr. Mundella, Vice President spirit our laymen will meet any good of the Council of Education: "Afpastor who may appeal in behalf of ter all, with the greatest respect to the preservation of a special polity, as our oldest universities, there can be vival services. Their hearts are in worth more than a United Church, no doubt that the test of the London sympathy with these earnest temperwith the quiet remark that, " change belongs to every age, and in be. University examination is the sever- ance workers.

est test to which a young man's education can possibly be submitted." It that the latest chapter in Methodist hisis by this test, it will be remembered, that the candidates for the Gilchrist Scholarship are awarded their respec-But, says a good brother, "If our tive merits. lay friends lead on this movement

DEATH OF REV. R. TWEEDIE.

Last week we announced the death of this esteemed minister, who passed away peacefully, having been mercifully spared the suffering which sometimes immediately precedes dissolu-

Mr. Tweedie belonged to one of those Methodist families which left Ireland many years ago to find a home on the South West Branch of the Miramichi, where, in the long absence of any pastor, they kept up with commendable care the social religious services of their previous home. From this worthy family three sons entered the Methodist ministry of the Lower Provinces, while a grandson has won a position of high honor among the students of the kingdom.

Our deceased brother entered the ministry in 1853. He was a man of stalwart frame, and a diligent worker in the fields to which he was appointed. Having followed him, at an extended interval, on the Shelburne circuit, the writer can testify of his great success in that town, where a revival attended his ministry which extended to other churches, and rendered his name very dear to many. In other places he was, we believe, generally successful, and highly esteemed. Failing health obliged him several years since to become a supernumerary. Last summer he again reported himself for work and took charge of the Hillsburg circuit, till the return of a wasting disease or complication of diseases, soon obliged him to withdraw from it to Hampton, where he died. His son, Mr. L. B. Tweedie, of Moncton, was privileged to be in attendance on his father for several days before death. Rev. T. J. Deinstadt, in a brief

note respecting the funeral, which took place at Hampton on Tuesday last, says :--" The service was held in the Methodist church. There was a large gathering, representing all the denominations in the community. The casket was placed in front of the communion rail, and on the lid were some beautiful floral designs. The pulpit was hung with black drapery. The following ministers participated in the service : Rev. S. W. Sprague, Joseph Seller, A.M., James Crisp, D. D. Moore, A.M. ; John C. Berrie and myself delivered addresses." From Mr. Deinstadt's address we hope to be able next week, to give some extracts.

A few weeks ago we saw in the columns of the London Methodist an exhaustive and most favorable review of Rev. Paxton Hood's new Life of Cromwell, and now we have that work before us in paper covers, but in clean type on good paper, at a cost of only twenty-five cents-a first-class work at chesp fiction prices ! At the same time the publishers. Messrs Funk and Wagnalls, of New York, take care to pay the foreign author or publisher. The English edition costs nearly two dollars. This attempt to furnish cheap reading of the best character for the masses is worthy of the sup-

port of all who know what a terrible amount of evil is the result of worthless reading. This work may be commended without hesitation. As we have before remarked, our Book Steward, Rev. S. F. Huestis is the agent for all the publications of the above house in the Maritime Provinces.

In another column Rev. W. H. Heartz gives us a few notes of a wonderful life. In a private note he remarks :-- " Incidents of great suggestiveness are connected with his life. and his record of over forty years is untarnished, causing even neglectors of God and religion to speak in unualified terms of his religion." Jught not the incidents of a long Christian life, begun strangely on board a ship of war-supposed generally to be the last place for finding Christ-and ended with such precious words of triumph, to be most carefully preserved and made known to the world. Who will undertake the task Properly and wisely done it would perpetuate Capt. Crosby's work.

Dr. Inch, President of Mount Allison Wesleyan College, writes us

"For the information of the many friends of the Institution who were no doubt startled by the report of another fire at Mount Allison and the narrow escape of the College, permit me to say that a most careful and searching inquiry has been made for the purpose discovering, if possible, the origin of the fire. The building was used only as a gymnasium, had no arrangement for heating, and was beyond the reach of danger from any ordinary cause of fires. It was, therefore, uninsured. There are only two possible hypotheses as to the origin of the fire the carelessness of some clandestine smoker, or incendiarism wanton or malicious. Which of these hypotheses is the correct one we have not yet been able to determine. The loss to the Institution does not exceed Five Hundred Dollars.

been agreed to by the General Conference, they were sent to the quarterly conferences for approval. The Canada Uhristian Advocate does not seem to us to be so happy, or perhaps we ought to say, not so enthusiastic, as it might well be over the progress of the union project itself. But the tendency of the age, we are glad to note, is steadily in favor of the unification of religious bodies holding the same doctrines. Questions of polity are questions of expediency that can be attended to at any time, and ought not to be barriers to union. We hope the other Canadian branches of Methodism will do as well for union as the Methodist Episcopal branch has.

On the subject of Union the Montreal Witness remarks :--

Happily for the cause of union there are no diversities of doctrine to separate them. All accept John Wesley as their founder, and Wesley's sermons and notes as their standards of doctrine. All delight, too, in the inimitable and inspiring hymns of the Wesleys, all observe nearly the same forms and methods of worship, and all equally hold to the great doctrines of the necessity of "the new "birth," or conversion, justification, sanctification, and-backsliding. Where nothing thus separates such great bodies of Christians but the forms of church government, and these are considered not "essentials" but rather matters of convenience and advantage in promoting the work, it is not to be expected any insurmountable difficulties will arise to union now that its importance and desirability have become recognized by all. The Methodist Church united in Canada will become the largest, most powerful, and we believe the most vealthy Protestant Church in the Dominion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

UNION. NO. III.

THE TERMS : WHAT ARE WE REQUIRED TO ACCEPT ?

It seems that we are asked to give up for the sake of union nothing we hold essential or sacred. That is certainly satisfactory. But what are we asked to accept as conditions of union ? We are asked to accept an extended General Superintendency, and Lay Delegation in Annual Conferences. equal numerically with the ministerial membership thereof. These conditions are not acceptable to some good men among us." Why then are they proposed to us? Because Union de-Union. Concessions ! Why should concessions be demanded from "us Are we not by far the most powerful and important body? Why should not our brethren of the other Methodist bodies bow down at our feet and make an unconditional surrender ? They have not been subjugated by us. They are not the captives of our bow and sword. They are our brethren. They share our lineage. They are at one with us on all important points. They want to dwell with us on equal terms honorably in unity. They are ready to make reasonable concessions for the

be proud, has by an overwhelming majority of its members, lay and clerical, accepted the basis of Union.

Could it it be supposed that our Church could alone enter Union with. out making reasonable concessions? Surely not. It is a waste of breath to talk approvingly of Union, or to sigh for its accomplishment, if we are will. ing to concede nothing or only the next thing thereto, for its attainment, But should we accept union regardless of cost and consequences ? Assuredly not. Are not the concessions demand ed from us too great ? Do they not involve the acceptance of perilous conditions ? Let us see. In this paper let us inspect the General Superintendency provisions. It is suggested that there be more than one General Su. perintendent, should the General Conference deem more than one ne. cessary ; that, save in one case at the

outset, the General Superintendent should be elected to serve eight years, and be eligible for re-election, that, i present at the opening of an Annual Conference, he should preside the first day of the session, and every alternate day thereafter till the close, and, with the President of said Conference, con. duct the needful ordinations.

Now. as to the multiplication of General Superintendents, the whole matter is permissive. The General Conference, in which all sections of the Church will be fairly represented. would by the adoption of this proviso be put in a position to act according to the approved necessities of the situation, as it ought to be. As to the eight years term, there is nothing of any weight to be urged against it. Such a term would be better far than a life term, and I think better also than a four years term.

The device for the alternate occupancy of the Annual Conference chair is, in my judgment, a clumsy and unscientific one. But all compromises are clumsy devices to solve difficulties. Many of them have been dictated by the truest wisdom, and amply justified by splendid results. Acceptance of the compromise in this case is the price we are asked to pay for the accession of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the Union. That Church i bound by its organic law to the maintenance of General Superintendency, and it deems the finding of an honor able locus standi in Annual Conferences essential to such maintenance. Its judgment on this point must be satisfied, or union with it is impos sible. Is acceptance of this provision, clumsy though it be, too great a price to pay to secure union with a Church numbering at the last Dominion census nearly one hundred and four thousand adherents ? Should we hesitate to make this small concession in beends, so far as we are concerned, on | half of Union to a Church sacrificing their acceptance. They are the con- so much for it? How can we hesitate cessions sought from us in behalf of on such a little matter in such a case There is much to be said for the provision judged on its merits. The participation under the Constitution and of right in the proceedings of the Annual Conferences by a General Superintendent may strengthen the Connexional principle, as any one may see. That is a principle worth conserving and fostering. The General Superintendent will always be an able man, and sometimes a man of genius. His participation in Annual Cenference proceedings will enhance their interest, and his public appearances on such occasions cannot fail to prove an sake of unity. The basis of Union emattractive feature in the eye of the bodies the concessions found necesgeneral public. But might not a conflict occur between the rulings of the alternate occupants of the Annual Conference chair? Not if they should be alike men of sense, well posted in Connexional law and usages. The General Superintendent will assuredly be such a man. He will be chosen for his proved fitness for his position. What would such a man be likely to do on a mere passing point of order Would he be likely to pick a guarrel without sense or reason with the Conference or its President? Would he be likely to invite impeachment for tyrannical conduct in the Chair ! Not in the least. Suppose his ruling on some Connexional law coming up should be disapproved by the Annual Conference President ? Well, ten to one the General Superintendent's ruling in the case would be right. Connexional law would be one of his chief studies. But on some vital point his judgment might be at fault, and his decision be appealed against. Granted. What then ? The Court of Appeal, composed of some of the best men in the respective Conferences, and jealous and zealous for their rights, might be trusted to decide wisely and justly. But would not the offending General Superintendent preside over the Court and dictate the decision ? He could not dictate. He could if present reason and vote; but his vote would count for no more than that of any other member of the Court. There is no certainty, and no reasonable probability that he would be judge in his own case. His colleague, if he had one, might preside, or for the occasion the Court might select one of its members to occupy its chair for the time. At all events, I see no reason for fearing that the Court would not decide righteously. It should be borne in mind that the Apostle of God forever enshrined in General Superintendent will have no power to select either the time or place for the meeting of an Annual Conference, and that the validity of its doings will in nowise depend on his presence. Calmly surveying the whole question. I see no reason whatever for withholding this concession for the sake of union to our Methodist Episcopal brethren for a boon likely to prove of priceless value. Are there good reasons for withholding the other concessions sought from us? We shall MELANCTHON.

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The widow and all the members of the stricken family may rest assured of the sympathy felt for them by the many friends, ministerial and lav, of the deceased husband and father.

Those Christian women who have labored so earnestly to maintain the Infant's Home in this city must have listened to the Eighth Annual Report of that Institution with no small degree of pleasure. During the year they have purchased the "Belvidere House" as a permanent location, at a cost of seven thousand dollars. For nearly four thousand dollars of this amount they are yet depending upon the public. We are glad to know that the gifts of the Churches are increasing from year to year. The proportion of deaths during the past year has been very small, only eleven per cent. We know of no similar institution in which the death rate has been so low. The ladies of the Committee make an earnest appeal to those who have " room for a little child in their hearts and homes" to adopt one. The annual meeting held last week was presided over by Rev. S. F. Huestis, and the report was read by Rev. R. Murray. Miss Nordbeck is Treasurer, and Mrs. E. M. Saunders, Secretary.

Messrs. Joseph Burrill and T. M. Lewis, of Yarmouth, are doing busy and effective work in the temperance cause in this city. It is a pleasure to feel that we can so cordially endorse both the work and the workers. There is great need of wise and earnest advocates of such character. It is a matter of regret that by arrangements, for which no one is to be blamed, this visit takes place at a time when our ministers are busily employed in reBRANTFORD, ONT.

A meeting of the members of the official Boards of the Wellington St., Brant Avenue, and Oxford street churches of Brantford, was held on Friday, the 26th ult., in the Wellington street church, to consider the basis of union. The Rev. Manly Benson, of Brant

Avenue Church, was, on motion of Rev. W. J. Maxwell, seconded by Rev. Thos. Boyd, appointed chairman, and M. S. Smith, Esq., of Riverside, secretary. There were present some fifty official members of the three churches. After the basis had been gone over,

item by item, and fully discussed, the following resolutions were adopted :

Moved by His Honor Judge Jones, seconded by Capt. G. H. Young : That this meeting is strongly convinced that a union of all the Methodist bodies of this country would greatly strengthen and promote the work of the Church, not only in the saving of money now unprofitably expended in divided and often rival work, but in promoting brotherly love and united Christian effort.-Carried. Moved by Wm. Wilkinson, Esq., M.A., seconded by Dr. Lowrey : That in such a union we recognize the fact that each of the uniting bodies must be prepared to make concessions to reach a common basis of union that would be acceptable to all -- Carried. Moved by D. Plewes, Esq., seconded by John Mann, Esq. : That this meeting of the Quarterly Boards of the three Methodist circuits in this city, having met and examined the basis of the Union, approve of the same and recommend it for adoption by our Quarterly Boards here at their February meeting. We also beg to

tender our thanks to the Union Committee for their painstaking and success in so equitably adjusting the varied differences of the Methodist Family in the Dominion.-Carried unanimously.

OUTSIDE VIEWS. The Western Christian Advocate

has this :

It is exceedingly gratifying to us to record in these columns the fact that at the special session recently held. the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada has by a large majority vote approved. seriatim, and as a whole, the articles comprised in the Union Basis which had been drawn up and agreed to by the joint committee representing the four Methodist bodies in Canada.

The Bible Christian Methodists are asked to accept a modified form of General Superintendency, and to withdraw from laymen in Annual Conterences the right to deal with a few matters properly pastoral. The Primitive Methodists are asked to give up one half of their lay delegation in Annual Conference, and content themselves with equal lay representation. They are also asked to restrict election to the Annual Conference Chair to ministerial candidates, and to leave pastoral subjects to the decision of the pestors, to shut laymen out of the Stationing Committee, and to accept a provision for a General Superintendency. Of the Methodist Episcopal Church it is demanded that she substitute an eight years term, with eligibility for re-election, for the life term of the General Superintendent, that she give up the consecration ceremony by which her General Superintendent has been inducted into office, that she henceforth, withhold from him the right to station ministers, that she consent to his entire exclusion from membership in Stationing Committees, and that she allow his right to the occupancy of the Annual Conference Chair, and to the conduct of the ordination ceremony to be greatly abridged. It is also required of this much-conceding Church to give up for the future her ordained Diaconate as a separate order, to abstain from ordaining Local Preachers, to consent to the virtual abolition of her Presiding Eldership, and to accept in Annual Conferences equal lay delegation. These are large demands. They involve serious changes in the polity received from the Episcopal Methodist Mother Church in the United States -a polity in its essential principles transmitted to United States Methodists from the hands of the great history under the name of John Wesley.

Such concessions as these can be made, in the circumstances, only by men of large, lofty and comprehensive views, and of a noble spirit. Will our brethren make these concessions Their Quarterly Meetings have yet to be tested on the subject; but their General Conference, to its glory be it said, led by its fine-spirited General * Superintendent, Bishop Carman, of The articles of the basis having whom Canadian Methodism may well

