

ctions of truth, like meteoric showers, are breaking over all lands.

Trav'ler, o'er yon mountain height,
See the glory-beaming star;
Watchman, does it beam on thee
Ought of hope or joy foretell?
Traveller, yes, it brings the day,
Promised day of Israel.

Soon righteousness will cover the earth as the waters do the sea. This done, the Church militant will brighten into the Church triumphant, and mingle and blend with the spirits of just men made perfect, and the Church of the first-born which are written in heaven.

Want of space and the lateness of the hour compel us to hold over to other issues of the "Recorder," the sermons delivered in the various city churches. We may also state that owing to our Reporter bringing in his report at too late an hour for publication we have to defer the addresses of Drs. Evans, Lindsay and Jeffers to our edition of Tuesday.

Correspondence.

GODERICH DISTRICT.

Goderich District lies within a beautiful agricultural country but recently reclaimed from the wilderness state. It embraces nearly the whole country drained by the Maitland and its numerous tributaries. The Thames, also, and the western branches of the Grand and south branch of the Saugenee rivers, find their source within its limits. By these and numerous smaller streams flowing into Lake Huron, it is well watered. Its length from Kincardine to Stratford as the bird flies, is 65 miles. Its general breadth is from 25 to 35 miles, embracing say 900,000, or very nearly one million acres; all of which when drained and cleared will yield an abundant return to the skilled and patient tiller. Perhaps 3 or 4 per cent. of the whole is swamp land, well timbered with ash, pine, and cedar, and 30 or 40 per cent. is yet covered with magnificent hard wood forests. The greater part of its people is from the older parts of Canada, or from the British Islands, though considerable settlements of frugal and thrifty Germans are found chiefly in the townships of Carrick and Grey.

Twenty years since this district was mostly an unbroken forest echoing to the whoop of the Huron and to the first strokes of the settler's axe. The followers of John Wesley may claim, in this as in many other regions, to have been first in following the latter and alone in carrying to the former the Bible and its ordinances. There are now two stations or town circuits, at the county seats, Goderich and Stratford, and a third (Clinton) created this year, six circuits employing ten ministers, and some missions with nine ministers. The membership of the District is now upwards of 3000, the stated hearers 10,000. There are about 50 Wesleyan S. Schools and 3059 scholars.

This is fruit of missionary toil—how grateful to the Master as well as to the under shepherds! Then, too, how many white stones already mark the resting places of those whose spirits are now before the throne! The rough stones are taken from nature's quarries, polished in the Church below and then removed to the great temple above. We are rapidly increasing in population and resources. Our schools are crowded with youth. Large quantities of salt from an inexhaustible source, are annually brought into market. Manufacturing is fairly begun. In many places those whose whole care, but recently, was to secure the necessities, have now the luxuries of life. To us, as to all lovers of Zion, it becomes a question of great moment—*are we improving as rapidly in morals and religion, in love to God and man, in our glorious fruit, labor and sacrifice? Is the least active energy, to leave the whole lump of society within our borders, and to disperse us nobly to join in the elevation of the multitudes seeking homes within our wide Dominion? Is it evident we have no light task to perform. Worldliness with carnal security and unbelief abound on all sides.*

Tipping is very general in spite of temperance organization and notes of warning from trumpets of no uncertain sound. Drunkenness is sadly prevalent; and the red blind with brilliantly lighted rooms in full blaze until a late hour even on Sabbath evenings, signals imminent danger to our young men, and a deplorable laxness and indifference in the moral tone of society. "Arise, O God, and maintain thine own cause!" Sister churches are and with us in the noble strife for victory, and, though some are content to smile upon sin, the dark cloud must roll back—the day of triumph come.

We raised the year before last \$2432 for Missionary purposes, and received \$2210; last year the balance in our favor is still greater. We are, therefore, beginning handsomely to return to the Missionary Society the hard cash they have but loaned us for a time, and we'll pay it all in due time with large interest. We seek, however, a moderate share of patience. We wish to yet retain such a proportion of our annual missionary contributions as shall be sufficient to cultivate our own waste places. We feel unwilling to sacrifice altogether poorer appointments, retaining only the strong, and casting the weak and the lame into the wilderness, or leaving them as stragglers to be picked up and folded by other shepherds. We hope no such necessity will be laid upon us—no disgrace so intolerable be suffered to cover us with shame. We ought in all reason, to meet the necessities of the work, to have three or four ordained men more than last year; and one or two fields require an additional man. The thorough and efficient manning of the home field is necessary to the maintenance and extension of the foreign or distant. If the outposts are to be extended the garrisons must be maintained. Let our noble Chairman have a full staff and a proper amount of the "sinews of war," and I am sure he will give a good account—nay, God-rich District will give a good account of herself.

C. BRISTOL.

BELLEVILLE DISTRICT, 1870.

In the year 1848 the Conference met in the town of Belleville—Dr. James Dixon, from England, presided.

At that Conference the Belleville District was first organized. It was formed out of ten circuits and missions taken from the Cobourg District, including Colborne on the west and Napanee on the east. The Rev. Richard Jones was its first Chairman. Within the bounds of the same territory there are at present thirty-three circuits and missions. In 1848 there were fifteen ministers laboring on the ten circuits; in 1869 forty-three ministers find all the work they can do. One of the many illustrations of the expansive power of Methodism.

In 1857 the District was re-organized, and arranged within its present boundaries. As now constituted it includes Prince Edward County, Hastings County, and a small corner of Northumberland. Its length between extreme points is nearly 200 miles, and its width about 35 miles. Its limits northward from Belleville is 160 miles—as far back as any settlers have gone, and southward it crosses the beautiful and fertile County of Prince Edward. In many of the northern townships the Wesleyan missionaries have been the first to occupy the ground, and in some of them now are the only ministers of the Gospel. Were it not for them hundreds of the people would be without the Word of Life and the ordinances of the Church. Territorially considered it is the largest District in the Province of Ontario; numerically, there is but one having a larger membership, and financially, but four which put more money into the treasury of the Church. The District is not narrow and selfish in its views and policy, but largely and nobly connoctional.

Large sections of a few of the far northern townships are very fertile, and are quickly filling up with population; but for the most part the northern section of the District is poor, and for this reason some of the missions will remain dependent upon the Missionary Society for years to come. The connoctional feeling in the District is evinced in the yearly increase of the contributions to the various funds of the church. Without exception they are in advance of any former year—some of them largely. Since the District was re-organized in 1857 it has advanced about 100 per cent. in its gifts for Church purposes. In 1848 the District composed a membership of 3117, in 1870 within the same boundaries there are 7000—upwards of 100 per cent. in twenty-two years.

The Sabbath School interests have kept pace with the general progress of the Church; there being at present more attention paid, and greater earnestness manifested in this department of the work, than at any previous period. During the past five years unprecedented progress has been made in church extension. To-day we have fifty-five churches, with ten others in course of erection, whereas in 1848 there were probably not more than a dozen on the whole District. Many of these churches are very valuable, costing upwards of \$3000 each.

In 1865 the District came under the Superintendency of its present loved and gifted Chairman, Rev. G. K. Sanderson. The increased activity and prosperity in all departments of church work, are the best eulogy upon his administration. As an example of the impulse which the District has received through his personal influence and earnest words, it may be stated that during the five years of his presiding fifteen churches have already been dedicated to the worship of God, and the ten previously referred to, will be by the blessing of God, during the coming year.

Spiritually and financially the District was never so prosperous as at present. We report an increase in membership of 200 and upwards, besides the improved spirituality of the church generally. Except in two or three instances there is no deficiency in minister's salaries. The people are loyal to Methodism, and we have peace within our borders. We prophesy for the future rapid progress, unless we greatly mistake the character of our present instrumentalities. We have all the outfit that soldiers in the army of Christ need to make them more than victorious—to make them triumphant. May the future be as the past, only much more abundant.

D. L. BATHURST, Sec.

To the Editor of the "Recorder."
Dear Sir—The following resolution, commending the pastoral labors of our Superintendent, Rev. W. R. Dyer, was passed unanimously at the last meeting of the Official Board of this circuit, which we shall be pleased to have inserted in your valuable paper:

Resolved, That we desire heartily to express our high appreciation of the labors of our Superintendent, Rev. W. R. Dyer, during the past three years; that we would pay a special tribute to his pulpit ministrations, which are always of a high order of excellence; that we desire to tender him our heartfelt thanks for his uniform faithfulness and zeal in the discharge of his duties, and to assure him that he has our earnest desire and prayers for his spiritual and temporal welfare.

A. R. WILLIAMS, P. S.

MITCHELL, May 30, 1870.

MARRIED.

On the 10th May, 1870, at the residence of the bride's father, Brewer's Mills, by the Rev. J. Armstrong Dowler, Mr. William Williams, late of Tweed, to Miss Jane Anglin, of Seely Bay.

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ON ACCOUNT OF the rise in the value of greenbacks, we will be obliged to charge Subscribers THREE DOLLARS, (\$3 00), in Canadian currency for the REPOSITORY in future. All orders for this Magazine addressed to the undersigned, will be duly attended to.

REV. SAMUEL ROSE, Wesleyan Book Room, Toronto

BOOKS AT THE BOOK ROOM. HOW THEY SELL, &c.,

REPORTED (WEEKLY) BY THE SHOP BOY.

The sale of Books for the last few days has been splendid—far in advance of anything we have had for some time previously. The store has been literally crammed with customers, and the Shop Boys, rather impatiently over-taxed, have, perhaps, been sought from them and questions asked quite foreign to the business, such as: "When do the mail cars pass?" "How often do the street cars pass in an hour?" "Where is the best place to buy clothing?" "Where do the boats come in?" "Where is Elm Street?" "Where will I get a good dinner?" etc. etc. The Shop Boys are glad to answer such questions on ordinary occasions, to the best of their ability, but when they are besieged by seventeen customers at a time, who are hungry for books, they think information on other subjects should be secured from proper sources and would be more reliable. Many of our ministers are excellent judges of books, and they kindly communicate their knowledge to one another; and thus the best kind of "Notices" are given. A perceptible difference in our shelves is already visible, and it has taken nearly five cases of books, just received, to fill up vacancies.

We are out of "Sims and Twigs, or Sermon Frame Work," but expect more in a few days. We are also out of the "Homiletic Commentary on the Acts," by Thomas, but expect more of this soon. Also the 4th volume of the 4th Series of the "Homiletic," but have ordered this also.

New Cyclopaedia of Illustrations, adapted to Christian Teaching, embracing Mythology, Analogies, Legends, Parables, Emblems, Metaphors Similes, Allegories, Proverbs; Classic, Historic, and Religious Anecdotes, etc. By Rev. Eion Foster, with an Introduction by Rev. Stephen H. Ting, D.D. 8vo cloth, 704 pages. Price \$4.50.

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Toronto, 1st June, 1870.

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