Obituary Notices.

Died, October 27th, in the 66th year of his age, Mr. WILLIAM SMITH, of Selmah, in the Maitland Circuit.

Brother Smith's health had been gradually failing for about a year; but no serious apprehensions were entertained, till about two months before his end; even then, though it was apparent that his active years were nearly ended, there was little apparently to discourage the hope that he might yet enjoy a long bright evening of life with his beloved and surviving partner—his loving and affectionate children, and christian friends and neighbours. But that hope however was not to be realised. He suddenly became much worse, and notwithstanding the best medical skill that could be procured, and all that kindness of family and friends could devise, it became soon painfully apparent that his life was in danger, and that he must soon yield to the stern demand of death. But it is a cause of unbounded thanksgiving to the God of all grace, that when the messenger arrived, he was "ready to depart and to be with Christ which is far better."

For more than twenty years Brother Smith had been a consistent member of the Wesleyan Church, and was ardently attached to the church of his choice and a liberal supporter of its Institutions, and when health would permit, he was a regular attendant on the public worship of Almighty God. A short time, however, after he was taken ill he intimated to the writer, who frequently visited him during his sickness, that he had not before his illness, lived as near to God as he now felt it was his privilege to have done, and that if his heavenly Father should raise him up again, he would live more fully to his glory. He already felt as he said, "that it was good for him that he had been afflicted,"—and yet again with the Psalmist—"I know that in faithfulness thou hast afflicted me." To his dear partner and children, and to various ministers and friends who visited him, he talked calmly and humbly of his confidence in Christ and his hope of heaven. There was no murmur on his lip, but with fortitude he meekly bowed to the summons that had reached him, and yielded up his soul with humble faith into the hands of his precious Redeemer.

His remains were conveyed to the Wesleyan Chapel, where this solemn occasion was improved from 1 Cor. xv. 56, 57—and then deposited in the "*narrow house*," amid the tears of an afflicted family, and a large assembly of his friends, and neighbours, "in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life."

May we all meet him in glorious bliss!

Maitland, Nov. 1861. R. E. C.

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1861.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern British America, we require that Obituary, Revival, and other notices addressed to us from any of the Circuits within the bounds of the Connexion, shall pass through the hands of the Superintendent Minister.

Communications desired for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence.

We do not undertake to return rejected articles.

We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of our correspondents.

The Annual Missionary Report.

Our Missionary Report for the past year has been published, and is probably now in the hands of the respective subscribers. It contains many things in a small space, and is worthy of a thoughtful and thorough perusal. Where the Anniversary meetings for the present year have not yet been held, our friends would do well to prepare their minds for these sacred festivals by a careful examination of the Report; and in those places where the Missionary meetings are now past, a frequent reference to its pages will tend to keep up the interest which those services are designed to beget. We observe by the Balance Sheet, that £75 are expended in the publication of this little work; and though this is a considerable item, yet if some 6000 families are thereby enlightened in regard to the state of the world, and the advancement of the kingdom of Christ, by one of the agencies of His Church; and are consequently stimulated to increased zeal and devotion in His service, the investment will doubtless be a remunerative one. We sincerely hope that Report will not share the fate of many similar documents—be searched for the name of the subscriber, and, when that and the sum of his contribution are found to be correct, be thrown aside as waste paper.

One of the most instructive and delightful recreations for the long winter's evenings now approaching, would be the survey of those Mission stations which are here described, and an examination of their influence upon the surrounding population. The lessons of Geography would thus acquire a new and greatly increased value, and the principles of the Divine Government which regulate the affairs of our entire race, would be seen in beauteous combination and development, operating for the promotion of man's greatest good, and for the glory of God.

Let us take the Report, and with a common Atlas and Geography, set out upon our imaginary voyage round the world. Our starting place of course is the Metropolis of England; and, before crossing to the European Continent, we simply look in upon our brethren in the Irish Missions, who, amidst privation of no ordinary kind, and undaunted by the subtle and malignant opposition of Celtic Romanism, are pursuing a course of victorious aggression upon the kingdom of Satan. From the days of Thomas Walsh down to the present time, the Irish-speaking Wesleyan Missionaries, have been amongst the most powerful of that country's Liberators.

Now we cross the channel to France. The Affiliated Conference of that country, is simply an organization of Wesleyan Missions. And no nation stands more in need of it. Romanism, Infidelity, and Licentiousness abound, and the National Reformed Church, where it exists, is but a feeble and often a very imperfect witness for the truth. But here our Missionaries "have not shunned to declare the whole counsel of God," and the "little leaven" of true godliness, on the part of our numerous though small Societies, is exercising a salutary influence upon "the whole lump" of the people.

Now we enter Germany, and our guide informs us of providential openings, and of even embarrassing success. This mission has recently been recruited both by English and native Ministers, and notwithstanding the proverbial intolerance of the state religion, it is evidently working its way into power and usefulness. We owe a debt of gratitude to this land, not only as Protestants, for its Luther and Melancthon; but as Methodists for its Nitschman and Böhler. Nor can our obligations be better discharged than by assisting to dispel the gloom and to thaw the iciness of its rationalistic theology, by an infusion of the light and love and power of primitive Christianity. Southward from that, upon the Italian Peninsula we have recently formed a Mission; and to the west, at Gibraltar we have long had one. Both, of necessity, are outposts of Protestantism against Popery—the one carrying Scriptural truth up to the gates of Rome itself, and the other while caring for our military and the mixed population of the Rock, sending into the interior of Spain, and along the opposite African coast, the streams of "that river which maketh glad the city of God."

We now join what is popularly, though rather deceptively, called the "Overland Route," sail up the Mediterranean, cross the Isthmus of Suez, steam down the Red Sea, enter the Indian Ocean, and land at Ceylon. Now we fairly come into contact with Paganism, but we are thankful to find such cheering intelligence as Mr. Gogerly and his coadjutors, both in the south and north of the Island can give us. Thence we proceed to the mainland, and find much to rejoice the Christian heart in the Madras District. Itinerant preaching seems specially adapted to India, and is prosecuted with growing success. The Press teems with publications of the right sort, and Educational Institutions of a decidedly Scriptural character are sowing broadcast the precious seed of the kingdom. We are glad also to learn that the European troops are being cared for by Missionary Chaplains, and that our work is spreading eastward to Bombay, and northward to Calcutta itself.

We are now conveyed to China, and in the "little flock," which has there been gathered by Mr. Piercy and his noble helpers, we see the earnest of China's conversion to Christ. We trust that even in this Province the appeal on behalf of the TAI PINGS will meet with a hearty and material response.

We return to Africa; and survey a glorious work at the Cape of Good Hope, and in the Eastern Provinces, both among the Kaffirs, the Fingoes, and other native tribes, and among the emigrants who have settled in their midst.

It is no less pleasing to observe the results of many years' labour, and of the sacrifice of not a few useful lives, and much of the Society's resources, along the coast of Western Africa. Many of the most degraded and miserable of Ethiopia's sable sons have there been delivered from the hands of men stealers, and have subsequently entered into the liberty of the sons of God. Some of them have become laborious and eminently successful Ministers of the Lord Jesus, and far greater numbers have already entered the inheritance of the saints in light.

Taking the same course as thousands of their countrymen have been compelled to take, we cross the Atlantic to the West Indies, and are gratified to discover that a gracious work of revival has been clothing these Islands with spiritual verdure, whose physical beauties are nowhere surpassed.

Led by our "friend, philosopher, and guide," we might now take the long voyage to Australia, thence to New Zealand, over to Tonga, still further to Fiji, northward again to British Columbia, proceed across the continent to the Hudson's Bay Territory, down through the Indian and Domestic Missions of Canada, and then home among our own brethren in Newfoundland and these Provinces; of whom we have heard a distinguished authority, the Rev. W. B. BOYCE, say, that their equals for self-denial, he had not anywhere found. Each of these fields of Missionary exertion could long engage our attention, and will well repay as much of it as our numerous readers may be able to bestow—but our present design is rather to suggest a profitable theme, than to enter upon its details. The Report, taken in connection with such of the Missionary notices as our friends may obtain, and the information which is often conveyed through the columns of this paper, will do that. There are two trains of thought, however, not only distinct, but of a widely opposite character, which open up to us from this hasty glance at the operations of the Missionary Society. The first relates to the great work which has already been done. Under the guiding hand of Providence, it has planted the standard of the cross on every Continent and on the most important Islands of the globe. It has brought the pure Gospel into contact with almost every system of error, superstition and cruelty. Undeterred by climatic dangers, by the inconveniences and discomforts arising from a constant residence among savage tribes, and by the perils to which their lives have been daily exposed, the agents of this Society have gone forth upon their mission of love, preparing the way of the Lord, and gathering the outcasts of men into the Saviour's fold. And their toil has been gloriously recompensed. Thousands, and tens of thousands of souls have been snatched as brands from the burning. Idolatry and its concomitants have been uprooted from many lands, to exist no more at all for ever. "The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they 'have perished' from the earth, and from under these heavens." Now when we consider the evil which has been remedied, and the blessings which have been imparted to our race by this instrumentality, can we forbear exclaiming, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad!" Yet from the same hasty review of this subject, other emotions may as naturally be excited. After all, how little in comparison with the wants of the world, has been done, or even attempted by this branch, or by all the branches of the Christian Church! Look again at Europe. To say nothing of the disproportion of the means employed for those nations which are already the seats of Missionary operations, with what feelings shall we view the condition of Spain and Portugal, of Austria and Russia, with many other states of smaller dimensions? It may perhaps be said that they are closed against the influence of a pure and Scriptural religion—but we know of no barrier to their evangelization so formidable as that of the unbelief of those who bear the name of Christ.

Then in Asia our work is but begun. Scarcely is the seaboard fringed with Gospel light, much less is the interior pervaded with Christian truth. In India and China there is one half of the human family, but the converts to our holy religion do not probably exceed one for every four thousand of the population. Then there are the densely peopled regions of Burmah and Siam, besides Arabia, Persia and Manchuria, with the Islands of Japan, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, and the Phillipines, where we have not a single station. Africa, too, has but a scanty supply of evangelists, and the numerous islands of the South Sea with piercing cries, still beseech the Christian world for help. What shall we say to these things? Surely the present time is the worst for retrenchment in the offerings of faith and love. It may be with much difficulty that our friends in these Provinces can increase Missionary subscriptions, or even keep them up to their former efforts; but, in the name of the Lord, let the attempt be made, and He will doubtless continue to supply all our need out of His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

WESLEYAN COLLEGE, SHEFFIELD.—It is understood that at the ensuing Conference the Governor of this College, the Rev. Samuel D. Waddy, D.D., will retire from that position, which he has held without interruption since the year 1844, and will resume the duties of the circuit ministry. We have heard that at a recent meeting of the directors it was agreed by that body to request the next Conference that the Rev. John H. James, at present Superintendent of the Sheffield West Circuit, may be appointed to the office of Governor, vacant by Dr. Waddy's retirement.—*Methodist Recorder.*

Letter from England.

From our own Correspondent.

November 15, 1861.

These dull November days are not stimulative to correspondence, and they seem too to throw a haze and gloom over politics, and trade and even religious enterprise. November is the month of suicides in England,—and verily there is something in the present aspect of things, as well as in the dull weather, to foster and encourage suicidal feelings in such as are that way inclined. If the weather in the atmospherical and social world may be taken as an index of the future, we may well look out for a dark and dreary winter.

The most notable incident of recent French politics is the recall of M. Fould to the Imperial Cabinet. The Imperial Exchequer is in a most deplorable state. The magnificence of the court,—the grandeur of the Imperial household,—the stupendous improvements of Paris,—the gigantic undertakings in the arsenals and dockyards,—and the very lavish luxury of Parisian life are all beginning to tell upon the nation, which is now without doubt on the very verge of what in polite circles would be called a "financial crisis," but what in more unsophisticated language would probably be designated a "wholesale smash." On these accounts M. Fould, an eminent financier, and a gentleman by no means given to the Imperial way of thinking, has been called into His Majesty's councils,—the said Majesty being thus compelled to swallow no small amount of humble pie.

All sorts of rumours result from the vacillation of the Emperor on the Italian question. The mission of Signor Ratazzi to the Tuileries is looked upon at one time as a signal failure, while again we hear of it as blooming with success. A great deal there is of speechifying, but little of action. It is whispered in Court circles that the Emperor at heart is in favour of a united Italy, but that he is restrained from coming out on the popular side by the influence of the Empress, who is devoted to the interests of the dear old Pope. Without adopting all that is said on this question, an estrangement between the Imperial pair is notorious enough.

The French papers are beginning at last to speak out on the American question, and in such a style as to augur nothing very favourable to the Northern States. An angry article in the *Constitutionel* speaks of the ingratitude of the Americans, and contains the sentence: "France may witness their disruption with indifference." Suspicious as we are of all such statements in the Paris organs, we can hardly get rid of the idea that this a "feeler," indicative of the possible policy of France in relation to the American question. One good result will very likely issue from the article in question:—the Northern press, which has so liberally blackguarded England, will now have another object on which to spend its wrath.

The boasted liberalism of Austria has turned out to be moonshine, and a recent edict of the Emperor, dissolving the Croatian Diet, and abrogating the Hungarian constitution, rings the knell of all hope for Hungary, save in the valour of her own sons. A military dictatorship has been appointed by the misguided Emperor,—and this is equivalent to the establishment of martial law throughout the Croatian provinces. Such a policy will but hasten the downfall of an Empire the record of whose deeds is written in blood, and the continued existence of which is a blot upon civilization and a bar to national enlightenment and progress.

Venice is likely to become a hot-bed of intrigue, as well as an object of the ambition of young Italy. Not calculating on its possible cession to Victor Emmanuel before many months, several ex-royal personages, or pseudo-royal aspirants have taken up their abode there. These illustrious circles include the Count de Chambord, the Ex-duke of Modena, the Ex-duke of Tuscany, the Dowager Queen of Naples,—and Francis the Second with his august (?) Queen are expected to join the precious *coterie* in the spring.

Among the political wonders of the day the speech of the Queen of Spain, on opening the Cortes, must take high rank. Spain, for centuries a proverb of national retrogression and decay, is positively looking up! Among the symptoms of her budding prosperity and enlightenment may be mentioned the fact that Queen Isabella has publicly promised her subjects an extension of the suffrage, greater freedom of the press, and a more extended right of self-government in matters of local interest.

The young King of Portugal has just passed away from the stage of life and rule. With him is buried much promise and hope for Portugal. But recently enthroned, he had already given evidence of sagacity and refined and liberal judgment. He was a great favourite with his people, and had during the few years of his rule done much for their elevation. While a minor he visited England,—and endeared himself much to the English people by the grace of his manners, and his unaffected endeavours to acquaint himself with the details of our constitutional government, and our national prosperity. On a recent visit to one of his provinces he caught typhus fever, and died after a few days' illness. His beautiful young Queen died but a short time since. His younger brother has fallen victim to the fever,—and his elder brother, who was in England at the time of the King's death, succeeds to the throne.

The troubles in Russia are by no means allayed. A very amusing story is told on the best authority. When the Emperor was in the Crimea, General Ignatieff telegraphed to him that the students at St. Petersburg were insubordinate. The Emperor telegraphed in return that he was to treat them as a father. The notion of a paternal style of government never entered the mind of the Russian General,—and he supposed that his Imperial master meant him to treat the insubordinate students as his father, Nicholas of questionable memory, would have treated them! He therefore arrested some hundreds of them, and put them in prison. It is said that this severity has very much troubled and mortified the Emperor, who is in a fix. In the meanwhile the students are "doing the martyr" in the fortress, and the total number attending the lectures at the University is *two!*

Russian policy in Poland does not savour much of the fatherly. The greatest difficulty has been with the women. Many ladies of high birth have been publicly whipped and knouted. But even this has not deterred them from demonstrating their nationality. The Russian officials have therefore hit upon an expediency under which the women are likely to wince. They have ordered that if any Polish lady shall appear in forbidden costume, or sing forbidden songs, all her male relatives, father, brother, husband son, cousins, shall be imprisoned! Such are the paternal governments of despotic empires!

The vauntings of the French press respecting Madagascar turn out to rest on a most visionary basis. The King, far from requesting a French protectorate, has entirely repudiated the notion of allowing any one to govern but himself. His prime minister is called Lambert. The general impression is that he is an Englishman, and his name would seem to point that way,—but the [illegible] that he is a Frenchman. They are very welcome to him. But the newspapers are most stormy in their denunciations of perfidious Albion, who they suppose is intriguing to secure Madagascar for itself. It is quite funny to read the diatribes of a passionate Frenchman. The London Missionary Society has requested the Rev. W. Ellis, the apostle of Madagascar, who is more than seventy years old, to go to the Island on a Mission of enquiry. It is to be hoped that the results of his mission will be such as to secure for the Protestant Church a firm and stable footing in Madagascar.

The elections for the Prussian Diet are now being held. The minister of the Interior has issued a circular to all the provincial authorities, directing them to *promote* the election of government candidates. This they are to do, of course, without the use of any illegal pressure. A pretty picture of constitutional government!

The Mexicans are likely to have their possessions blown about their ears. England, France and Spain have agreed upon a united expedition to bring them to their senses, if those valuable gifts have not left the country a century since. The three powers are to provide a naval force of equal strength. The size of the land forces of each is to be regulated by the number of subjects belonging to each power respectively in the country. England stipulated that no member of the reigning families of England, France, or Spain, should receive the government of Mexico, in case of any change in the present authority.

France and Spain however, who are doubtless looking for pickings, decline to come into this arrangement,—and only go so far as to engage not to influence the Mexicans in their choice of a ruler. This promise will go, of course, for as much as it is worth.

The relations of Great Britain and the United are rather awkward. The correspondence of Mr. Seward with Lord Lyons is insulting and angry. Our representative firmly but most courteously protested against the imprisonment of British subjects on mere suspicion, and without the privilege of a writ of *habeas corpus*. Such a proceeding is utterly illegal and unpardonable among enlightened nations. Mr. Seward's reply was voluminous, and in spirit decidedly *snarling*. But really the American mind is so absurdly sensitive that one might suppose that the President was as infallible as the Pope. It must be accepted henceforth as an undeniable position,—that the American government cannot do wrong,—that its proceedings are too sublime to be submitted to the paltry tests of reason and law,—and that all nations who presume to call its arrangements into question may as well prepare their epitaphs and make their wills as being "gone coons!" It has been hinted that the President would like to engage England in war,—with the idea that the separated States would unite to attack a common enemy. England has no wish for war with America,—all her sons would repudiate such a prospect with horror,—but the President and his ministers may go too far,—and then let America beware. Her war of independence was a grand thing, and she had right and truth on her side:—but a war with England now would be but a freak of mad and lawless passion,—certain to result in ruin and decay.

The King of Greece has just escaped a fearful death. On his return from Bavaria, he was to have entered Athens, with a large escort, and a display of fireworks, amidst a general demonstration. A telegram, however, warned his Majesty that a conspiracy had been discovered, on the part of three officers, who had won over a portion of the escort, and made arrangements to fall upon the royal personages, during the shouting and fireworks, and then and there to massacre them.

From New Zealand we learn that all interest about the war was sunk in the discovery of gold at Tuapeka. The diggings were opened in June, and the yield for three months has been 27,000 ounces. The colonists of Australia have made a thorough exodus, and have crowded into New Zealand by thousands at a time. Every available vessel has been chartered. The scenery at the wharves of Otago is represented as beyond description. There is a perfect chaos of confusion. Sir George Grey's arrival was eagerly looked for. He will find more savages to subdue than such as are native.

Our Home prospects are not very inspiring. The cotton question is one on which our speculatists are spending much anxious thought. From a recent return it appears that one-third of the Lancashire mills are working full time, about the same proportion four days in the week, more than a hundred three days, and fifty are altogether shut up. About sixty-five thousand of the operatives are in full employ, but upwards of eight thousand are out of work. A large supply of cotton is expected from India,—great exertions are being made in other districts, and it seems clear in a few years, at most, we shall be quite independent of America for this invaluable commodity.

The Queen has recently held the first chapter of the new Indian order of Knighthood, the Exalted Order of the Star. Your lady readers will be glad to learn something about the insignia of this new order. The mantle is of blue satin, lined with white, and fastened with cordons of white silk. The collar is of gold and enamel, composed of the lotus of India, palm branches, and the red and white rose. In the centre is an imperial crown. The badge of the order consists of an onyx cameo, of her Majesty's effigy, set in a perforated and highly ornamental oval, containing the motto: "Heaven's light our guide." Surmounting the oval is a diamond star. The Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales were made extraordinary Knights. The order was conferred upon Viscount Gough, Lord Harris, Lord Clyde, Sir John Lawrence, Sir George Pollock, and the Maharajah Dhulup Singh.

The speeches made by her Majesty's Ministers at the Guildhall banquet on Lord Mayor's Day were singularly devoid of political reference. The presence of the American Minister was perhaps a check upon the speakers. Mr. Adams in a long and eloquent address made no reference to the unhappy state of things in his own country. The Southern Government have sent commissioners to England, but our authorities have wisely refused to receive them. They were, however, entertained by the Fishmongers' Company, at a banquet, in their splendid Hall, and they spouted away to their hearts' content.

The political world has lost two prominent men during the past month: Sir James Graham, and Mr. Thomas Duncombe, so long member of Parliament for Finsbury. The life of the former was long and distinguished, the latter was mainly remarkable for his obstinate notions on the subject of Reform. He was a thorn in the side of Sir James, and both within a few days of each other have been numbered with the dead.

The great question of English versus French naval architecture has been settled for a time, "*La Gloire*," the model iron-plated war steamer of the French navy has just returned from her trial trip. The highest speed realized was thirteen knots an hour. "*The Worrier*," the model war steamer of England has achieved a speed of eighteen knots an hour. The French will be almost wild. The Great Eastern shareholders learn to their discomfiture and horror that this ill-fated vessel cannot be fitted for sea but with an outlay of thirty-three thousand pounds; There has been immense loss recently on some of our coasts. Terrific storms have swept over Scarborough and neighbouring sea-ports. At the former place several gentlemen were drowned in a gallant endeavour to rescue some poor shipwrecked boatmen. Among these brave martyrs to the spirit of heroism was Lord Charles Beauclerc. These storms were all predicted by Admiral Fitzroy, and storm signals were hoisted. But the British sailor is proverbially reckless, and many who were duly warned lost their lives. Admiral Fitzroy, who kindly keeps his eye on the weather for the benefit of the nation, will probably succeed in establishing a system of storm signals at every principal port in the kingdom, and thus save many gallant lives.

A gigantic scheme is projected for doing honour to the memory of Shakespeare. It is proposed to buy a large portion of the town of Stratford, immortalized as the birth-place of the great dramatist, and to build a memorial library and museum of Shakespearian relics. The scheme will require about fifty thousand pounds,—and though Mr. Halliwell the antiquarian, is very sanguine, his plans will probably have to figure on paper only for many years to come.

The new minute on Education is creating yet a great deal of excitement in the country, though the popular mind is gradually veering round to a more favorable view of the scheme. An influential deputation has waited upon Lord Palmerston, to protest against the adoption of the minute, and his Lordship, after listening with great patience, promised that the points referred to by the Deputation should have the serious consideration of the Government. A very influential meeting has recently been held in Manchester on the part of the Wesleyan Ministers, Day School Managers, and Certificated Teachers of that city. A voluminous document, consisting of fourteen propositions against the new code, was unanimously adopted. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, a very competent authority on all educational questions, has written an able letter to Earl Granville, denouncing the scheme.—Much, however, has been said and written on the other side, with great effect and judgment. Probably the Government will adopt a scheme embodying a modification of the views of both parties.

Sir Robert Peel, the new Secretary for Ireland, has been well received, and has been on a tour through the districts in which famine is beginning to extend its ravages. Sir Robert called upon Archbishop (?) Cullen, who, however, was "not at home." The hot-headed prelate, not satisfied with this incivility, composed a libel upon the Chief Secretary, which was read last Sunday from the altar by all the Roman Catholic Clergy of Dublin. A great deal Sir Robert will care.

Very much more courteous and graceful is a recent act of the Bishop of London. The Baptist Magazine records that the Bishop, in a letter to the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, says, "When I think of the thousands of souls in the metropolis, whom the efforts of all the Ministers of religion among us fail to rouse, how can I fail to thank God that those powerful means of influence which you possess are enlisted in Christ's cause." It is very good and catholic of the Bishop to write in this strain,—but he can hardly have heard of the recent lecture on "Shrews, and how to tame them!"

Notwithstanding the depression of trade, Methodism is pushing ahead. The Leeds Missionary anniversary has just been held, and with great success. Mr. Farmer's annual donation of course was not forthcoming, but, exclusive of that, the collections were up to those of last year, the congregations were overwhelming, and the Missionary feeling ran high. In every fresh number of the *Watchman* we read of the laying of some foundation stone, the opening of some new Chapel or School, the wiping off of some huge and long standing debt, or the projection of some grand scheme of extension. Methodism is laying down a broad basis, and preparing for a large aggression upon the country.

Mr. Mason has just issued the first volume of Dr. Bunting's Sermons. The book, independently of its precious contents, is attractive. The style of binding and getting up is in advance of previous issues from the Book-room. Mr. Mason has actually treated us to carmine edges! The second volume is promised soon. Would that the same could be said of the second volume of Dr. Bunting's Life by his son!

The great fact of Methodism during the month has been the public reception given to the venerable Thomas Jackson by the Wesleyans of Manchester. Availing themselves of a visit of Mr. Jackson to the city, the Methodist people determined to give him a thorough Methodist welcome. Disliking anything like a display, Mr. Jackson, when an intimation was given him of the intended demonstration, begged that it might be of the love-feast kind. And it was truly so. At a Breakfast Meeting held in the Assembly Room, under the presidency of the President of the Conference and of Dr. Hannah, who took the chair when the President was called away, an address was presented to the venerable minister, to whom, under God, Methodism owes so much. The address was prepared by Mr. Percival Bunting, and is most beautifully drawn up. Mr. Jackson's reply was in his happiest style, full of simple, humble, hearty devotion. It is to be hoped that all your readers will have the opportunity of reading it in full. The meeting was one of incomparable worth, and while reflecting honour upon the venerable Mr. Jackson will not fail to tell for good on Methodism at large.

The Rev. James Methley, an able and accepted minister of our Church, has just been called to his reward, at an advanced age.

For the Provincial Wesleyan.

MR. EDITOR:—If you do not think that I am troubling you too frequently, or taking up too much space in your valuable paper, or if your readers can find time amid the stirring events which are transpiring on this continent, to feel any interest in matters of local importance, I would like to give you a little report of our

EXMOUTH STREET MISSIONARY MEETING,

held last Tuesday evening; and which—in point of attendance, of speaking, of missionary power, and of contribution to this good cause—was a decided success.

Aaron Eaton, Esq., on being called to the chair, reminded us that we were associated with one of the greatest and most influential of missionary societies—that our missionary labors encircled the globe—that they were rapidly fulfilling the vision of the Apocalypse, in carrying the Gospel to them that dwell upon the earth. He alluded to the widening fields for the circulation of the Bible and for the promulgation of the Gospel—especially in Italy and India. In Italy 31,000 copies of the sacred Scriptures had been already circulated; and Garibaldi, the champion of freedom in that country, had expressed a wish that every Italian might read the Word of God. In India, too, there was a loud call for help: the fields were ripening, and more laborers were needed to gather in the precious harvest of immortal souls. Much sympathy had been excited, and much prayer had been offered for the conversion of India to Christ. He hoped that we would do our part in this work, and that Exmouth Street might be an example to the sister churches worthy of imitation.

The Report was read by the Rev. Mr. McMurray, who also furnished us with some very important statistics, shewing, so far as facts and figures could do, the aggregate result of the combined effort of the various evangelical agencies in the different parts of the mission field.—He spoke of those, whose bodies moulder in the graveyards around the missionary church, and whose spirits are now before the throne of God, the fruit of missionary toil. He furnished a triumphant answer to the question mooted in certain quarters: "Have modern Protestant Missions proved a failure?"

The mover of the first Resolution said that, if we had achieved no visible success in this work—if no impressions had been made on the nations of heathenism—had Hindoism continued without a wrinkle on its brow, or one visible sign of decay—had the cresent of the false prophet been shining with unwaning splendor—had the monster of the seven hills received no mortal wound, and all the world not wandered after the great Beast—had China still been inaccessible to Christianity—and the dense darkness of Africa been unbroken by one ray of heavenly light—and the captives of the West Indies still clanking their chains—and the savage tribes of the Southern Seas still revelling in the scalp dance and the cannibal feast, and deeply sunk in depravity as when the first missionary landed on the shores—in view of the great commission our duty to labor in this cause would have been imperative. But our faith hath not been thus tested. Thanks be unto God, who always causeth us to triumph! Beneath the influence of the Gospel, enthralled tribes had been been made free—moral deserts had blossomed as the rose—dark places of the earth had become as the Eden bowers of the universe. The Hindoo devotee had found peace at the foot of the cross—the Ethiopian had stretched out his hands unto God—the wild Kaffir had become a gentle disciple—the Hottentot had been translated to heaven—the red man of the forest had been taught to pray to the Great Spirit above—and the royal chieftain of the Friendly Islands had beat his spears, if not into pruning-hooks, into rails for the communion altar, and the clubs of his ancestors into pillars for the pulpit in the sanctuary of God.

Rev. Mr. Prince described, in graphic style, the courage and heroism of the missionary, in making sacrifices, in braving perils, and in overcoming obstacles. The man who gives up all the endearments of civilized life, of home, of friends, of his native land, the church in which he worshipped, the pew in which he sat, and all the associations of religious life, needs strong resolution and much grace. But when he arrived at his sphere of labor, new difficulties were to be encountered. In a Mohammedan country he must proclaim the true character of the false prophet, as the most heaven-daring, heaven-provoking, heaven-insulting imposture that ever walked on God's earth. In other idolatrous countries he goes to tell them that the gods they worshipped and the gods their fathers worshipped, are no Gods, but the work of men's hands. There were other difficulties: the acquisition of unwritten languages—unhealthy climates—the sickening and disgusting habits of the people—the instability of their governments—were all calculated to make a man pause. Yet these difficulties had been surmounted. Carey, who commenced his career contemporaneously with the Corsican conqueror, and who, at the time that the star of Napoleon's destiny had risen to the zenith of its glory, was seen in the far-distant East baptizing his first convert; Coke the Apostle of Wesleyan Mission enterprise, Williams, Lawry, Hunt, Marshman, Moffat, Martyn, and a host of others had triumphed over these obstacles. It was our duty to remember our Missionaries in fervent prayer, and to support the cause by our contributions.

Mr. McMurray, who spoke with much warmth and fervour of feeling, remarked that there was a sublime burden in the prayer "Thy Kingdom come" It was the expression of every soul engaged in the work of *reform*—of those remembered ones who sleep the sleep of the just—of Wesley in his glorious itinerations of charity and love—of John Howard showing what philanthrophy can do when imbued with the spirit of Christ—of Elliot who amid the thick forests of the North, proclaimed to the red man the word of life. He liked the missionary spirit of this meeting. He was much affected by the memorial gift, presented here by Mr. Lathern, from the parents of that dear child now in heaven. Since the last Missionary meeting his own venerable father had been called to his reward, and was that evening looking down upon them. He rejoiced in listening to the names of these Juvenile Missionary Collectors, and thought their little rills would augment that mighty stream of benevolence which was being sent to the ends of the earth. He believed the cause of Missions to be the cause of God. Commercial pressure might affect, for a time our resources, shipyards might relax their operations, and railroads curtail their expenses, but this great work would go on. He desired for the churches a more earnest Missionary Spirit, and hoped that from Exmouth St. Church, some youthful disciples, constrained by the love of Christ, would yet be sent forth into the mission field. He spoke of the claims of India, of the present aspect of Figi and concluded with a stirring appeal.

Mr. Denis Sullivan, after some preliminary observations, remarked that from that glorious day in which the Reformers succeeded in extricating, from a crude mass of human inventions, the pure system of faith and practice, which Christ taught to his followers, Protestantism had continued to advance in its majestic course until it had nearly divided with Papacy the empire of the Christian world.

In this great warfare the weapons were not carnal but spiritual. The sword of the spirit was the word of God. Providence had prepared the way for an almost innumerable multiplication of copies of the Sacred Scriptures by the discovery of the art of Printing and for their rapid dissemination by the discovery of the mariner's compass. The Pope and his clergy acknowledged the authority of the Bible; but, assuming to be its only sure and infallible interpreters, dealt out only such parts and parcels as were not opposed to their pernicious errors. The word of God was the enemy of all *despotism* civil and religious. Its teachings scattered the darkness of superstition, and no one who had tasted the pure streams of the river of life, could afterwards relish the polluted waters of human tradition. He spoke of the malignity and virulent hostility of the infidelity of the last century, as represented by such men as Paine and Voltaire—the re-action which their boasted assumptions and coarse attacks upon the Christian Faith had produced in all ranks of protestant people, and the great enterprises which were then originated for the extention of the Redeemer's Kingdom. He described the taking of Jericho by the Israelitish army. The world was our Jerlcho. We were to take possession of it. The gospel trumpet was to be blown, the sacramental host to shout with a shout, and mighty Jericho would fall before the army of the Cross. Mystic Babylon should then be overthrown. We were to be up as the heart of one man, to mature our plans, to rally our forces, to make our attack, and the Man of Sin would be slain by faith and prayer, its sepulchre should be the hill of Calvary, its epitaph written in the blood of the cross, and its victory celebrated throughout Lord Jesus Christ.

Dr. Richey, whose impressive speech was most in order, said, he did not claim to be such a proficient in the chronology of prophecy as to be in the secret of the times and seasons which the Father had put in His own power. The confidence with which such questions were arithmetically decided by some, he could not but regard as an attempt equally presumptious and fruitless, to violate the seal by which the Supreme Head of the Church had enveloped, in impenetrable obscurity, the precise epochs of the fulfilment of His revealed purposes. We were authorized and exhorted however to be wakefully observant of the signs of the times, by which Divine Providence usually affords premonitory indications of events of especial magnitude and importance.

In illustration of this remark, he referred somewhat in detail to the Providential preparation, in the political and social condition of the world, for the coming of the Messiah; and then adverted to some of the more prominent and momentous events which crowd the history of the present century,—the formation and triumphant progress of the British and Foreign Bible Society—the extinction of the Slave trade and Slavery in the British dominions—the change in the position and policy of Turkey—the accessibility of the millions of China to the Gospel—the consolidation of British Supremacy in India—the knell of the Pope's temporal Sovereignty—the emancipation of Italy from spiritual and political despotism—the recent accession of a Christian Prince to the throne of Madagascar. After dilating on these, and kindred topics, he urged the obligations to the manifestation of that practical zeal in the cause of Christ imperatively demanded by the exigencies of the present crisis.

During the course of the meeting a sum of thirty-five dollars and fifteen cents were presented accompanied by the following note.

"Enclosed is the amount with interest to date of a sum deposited for our dear little boy, who is now numbered with the angels. And now we his parents, wish to present this amount to the Wesleyan Mission Fund as an offering to Almighty God, trusting that He may add his blessing. Amen."

The total receipts of the evening amounted to the noble sum of one hundred and twenty-eight dollars and sixty-five cents—£32 6s. 3d.

St. John, N. B., Nov. 22, 1861. J. L.

General Intelligence.

Colonial.

Domestic.

A report reached here by the Steamer *Himalaya* on Tuesday evening last, that the news of the capture of Messrs. Slidell and Mason from on board the Steamer *Trent*, had reached home, and that a steamer had been sent off at once with despatches to the United States. The report turns out to be incorrect. It appears that it originated in this way—Messrs. Slidell and Mason were expected in England, and an American ship-of-war the James B. Adger, was lying off the coast of England waiting to intercept them; and the fact having come to the notice of the authorities at home, a frigate was sent off to watch the movements of the American vessel, and if necessity demanded, to see that the vessel in which the Southern Commissioners were aboard of, was not interfered with. So far as we can learn, this is the origin of the report.—*Ex.*

The Supreme Court was engaged from Monday morning till Thursday afternoon in the trial of Burdell and Lane on the charge of Wilful Murder. No new facts of any consequence relative to the murder were produced. The Prisoners were ably defended by Hon. J. W. Johnston, and J. W. Ritchie Esq. The prosecution was carried on by the Attorney and Solicitor General. The Chief Justice presided. The Jury brought in a verdict of Man-slaughter against both the Prisoners.

One strong point of the defence was the fact that the City Council matters were so miserably bungled, that the Policemen were not in possession of legal authority to be on board the *Shooting Star*. The law provides that warrants should have the City Seal attached. It turned out that no such seal was used on the warrant carried by Gardiner. These bungling civic authorities should be taught a sharp lesson for endangering justice in this sort of way.

Sentence will be pronounced shortly. Universal surprise is felt at Lane being brought in as equally guilty with Burdell.

The whole of this trial was conducted with distinguished ability; and the Jury in returning the verdict thanked the Chief Justice for the clearness of his charge.

Haslin, the Yarmouth fratricide, is to be confined for life—not hanged.—*Pres. Witness.*

NEW LIGHT HOUSE ON CAPE SABLE ISLAND.—The erection of this Light House is a matter of commanding importance to all interested in Commerce and Navigation. This evening it will be lighted, for the first time, and two questions flash upon the mind:

1st. Has notice of this addition to our Light-houses been generally diffused and made known? and

2ndly. If there has been neglect, is there any remedy?

From the facts of the official notice bearing date the 15th October, and from not finding the notice republished in other than our own Colonial newspapers, it is to be feared that sufficient and timely notice has not been furnished, and thus, that which was intended as a friendly beacon, may prove to some a delusion and a snare.

Now, as to the remedy. Here follows a brief notice of that most important Light House, situate near one of the most universal and dangerous thoroughfares of British and Colonial traffic:

On this 12th November, 1851, the new Building, painted White, is lighted with a FIXED RED LIGHT. It is erected (at about 60 feet above sea-level at high tide) on the extreme end of CAPE SABLE ISLAND, at the most Southern extremity of Nova Scotia, in lat. 43 ° 24 N., and long. 65 ° 36 W.

The Light