

have promised that there shall be no more betrothals, but the old promises must be kept. We have three or four girls in the house all winter. The old superstitious father of one came and requested that we should not require her to wash or eat before the sun reached a certain height, or her parents would die early."

From the report of the French Methodist Institute in Montreal, we gather the following facts. The objects of the Institute are: first, the training of missionaries; second, the education of French Canadians, especially converts from Romanism; and thirdly, general educational work in French, provided it does not interfere with the other two objects. None are admitted but young men of the age of fourteen years and over. The principal, the Rev. L. N. Beaudry, regards the Institute a complete success. There were twenty-two students during the past year, nine of whom were studying with a view to missionary work, and four others were English-speaking students learning French. The Institute deserves the liberal patronage of the Methodist community.

ITEMS.

A shipwreck has occurred on the New Zealand coast, by which the Wesleyan Methodist Church has lost three of its ministers, and two laymen. The Revs. Joseph Waterhouse, J. B. Richardson, and J. Armitage, and Mr. Cornell, and Mr. Mitchell, were drowned among many others. Australasian, like British Methodism, has been sorely smitten. Since the loss of the *Maria*, West India Mail boat, no such loss has suddenly befallen our Churches. Rev. J. Waterhouse was the accomplished and enthusiastic son of the hero who died, crying, "Missionaries! missionaries!" He had been to bring home a sick son, and father and son were both drowned. The Rev. J. B. Richardson was the President of the New Zealand Conference, and that fact sufficiently indicates his eminence

and worth. The Rev. J. Armstrong, though but of seven years' ministerial standing, was editor of the *New Zealand Wesleyan*, and promised remarkable power and usefulness. The two laymen were picked out by their peers to be representatives to the Adelaide General Conference, and such men must have been of special worth. What do these be-reavements teach?

The Wesleyan Missionary Committee has undertaken to raise the sum of \$65,000 by means of subscriptions from the young men of Methodism, to free the Society from debt, as a memorial to Dr. Punshon. A very fitting memorial. Circulars have been sent out by Messrs. Percy W. Pocock, and T. A. Gurney, which it is hoped will accomplish the desirable object.

We regret the occurrence of several errors in the report of Eastern Conference doings in our last number. The brother who headed the list of contributions for Endowment Fund, Mount Allison College, gave \$500, not \$50. A gentleman in Halifax has given one-fifth of amount required, \$10,000. The Sackville offer has nothing to do with this Halifax gift.

THE DEATH ROLL.

We regret to learn the death of Rev. James Seymour, on Monday, 8th inst., at the ripe old age of 83 years. Bro. Seymour was fifty-three years in the Methodist ministry, but for some years past had been failing in health. He died at the residence of his son, the Rev. J. C. Seymour, at Markham. His last illness was of short duration. His son writes: "He died in great peace. Religion with him was a glorious and life-long reality, the ruling passion of his soul, and it was strong in death."

The youngest son of the late Rev. Joseph Benson, the Methodist commentator, died recently in his 82nd year. Mr. Benson was Chaplain of St. Saviour's, Southwark, England, to which Church he was appointed curate as far back as 1824.