

THE WESLEYAN

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1879.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION.

About a half century has passed away since the Temperance movement began in these Provinces. The earliest organizations for the suppression of intemperance were known as Temperance Societies. The pledge adopted by those societies required their members to abstain from the use of rum, gin, whiskey, and brandy. Members were allowed the free use of all other kinds of intoxicants. After an experience of a few years it was obvious, to those early workers in this great reform, that something more was needed.

The old-fashioned temperance pledge was found insufficient for reclaiming many nebrates, and powerless for saving the young from becoming drunkards. There came a cry for total abstinence. Organizations sprang up in many places, all over the land, with a pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, as a leverage. Those organizations increased in numbers, and grew in membership, and yet the work of destruction went on.

In the year 1842 a Society was organized in New York to which was given the name of the Sons of Temperance. In 1847, this organization was introduced into New Brunswick, in St. Stephen, then in Fredericton, afterwards in St. John, and about the same time in Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. This order spread rapidly, became popular, and gave promise of becoming a pride and glory of the land. Within a few years a vast amount of good was accomplished. The people learned to comprehend, in a greater degree than hitherto, the enormity of the evils of intemperance. The mischief-making power of the traffic in strong drink was becoming better understood. Then came a cry for a prohibitory law.

Petitions were sent into the Legislature of New Brunswick in 1851, and in following years, asking for a prohibitory law. For several years the question was discussed on the floors of the legislature. Prominent among the advocates of prohibition in the New Brunswick House of Assembly of that day were Sir Leonard Tilley, Judge Steadman, Hon. James Brown, and others. The speeches then delivered on the floor of the House were published by the press. Many pulpits gave utterance to timely words in behalf of the reform. The platform wielded a potent influence. Popular feeling became aroused.

A Prohibitory Law was passed in New Brunswick in 1853. The Act provided that the law should go into operation on the first day of January, 1854. About the last of January of that year an immense mass meeting was held, in front of the Court House in St. John, to submit resolutions to the people, calling for a repeal of the law. But the people voted, about two to one, against a repeal of the law. A week or two later a similar meeting was held in front of the Court House at Kingston, Kings County. The people, at the King's County meeting, also, voted, about two to one, in favor of prohibition. Everything seemed favorable for the carrying out of the law. When, — lo! a powerful combination was formed against the measure. Men, high in ecclesiastical and governmental positions, blocked up the way. The prohibition party was for the time being defeated. The political heavens were black with clouds and storm. The law was repealed. Many thought that everything was lost.

But, everything was not lost. Faithful temperance workers bided their time, until the storm should be overpast. Slowly better things came. The agitation went on. Temperance principles, meanwhile, were permeating the masses. The public conscience of the country was being educated. Legislation was being secured in behalf of Temperance in different provinces. At length the Parliament of Canada, in 1878, passed a prohibitory law, which is known as The Canada Temperance Act. County after county in New Brunswick, through the ballot box, indicated, most unmistakably, by overwhelming majorities, that it is the will

of the people that the traffic in strong drink should be prohibited, as theft, and other crimes, are prohibited, and should be outlawed, as every crime ought to be. And, now, just when the struggles of long years of temperance discussion and agitation seemed about to be crowned with success, — lo! the Judges of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick block up the way. Good men and true, in high positions, sometimes make mistakes, and counteract the purposes of providence, and frustrate the will of the people. The will of a free and intelligent people is sure in the long run, to carry the day. Before it all obstructions will, sooner or later, be swept away. What ever is really good and great is slow in coming to maturity.

THE BERWICK CAMP MEETING.

This summer—for the first time—we attended the Feast of Tabernacles at Berwick. The weather, we were told, was less favorable than usual, but, chilly and cheerless, as during a part of the week it certainly was, it did not prevent large numbers from attendance at nearly all the services. Ministers and leaders, Bible-class and Sabbath-school teachers, with many of the rank and file of the churches, were there, seeking, in the absence of worldly cares and business interruptions, that preparation from above which makes weak mortals "meet for the Master's use." Expressions of regret, respecting the absence of Sabbath services, were heard from some who had enjoyed those services in other years, but the great majority, it appeared to us, were prepared to endorse the action of the Committee, in commencing the meetings on Monday and closing them on Saturday. From personal observation of camp-meetings elsewhere, we could not hesitate to view the action of the Committee as worthy of hearty approval. Some persons, in the past, have found an argument against the camp-meeting itself, in the bustle and excitement of its Sabbath surroundings; may it not be hoped that these, in view of the action of the Association, involving increased financial loss, will henceforth and that body by their presence, and from their purses. Christian men and women, with a few days to spend in rest or change of scene, would accomplish their purpose much better than by rushing over hundreds of miles, and making a toil of pleasure. And in their experience the prayer of St. John for his friend—the well-beloved Gaius—would be abundantly answered. "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

Our object in this hurriedly-written article is not to describe the services of a week devoted to so many to holy duties. Certain cares at times interrupted our attendance, and thus rendered us unable to present a complete report. The object in view will be attained if any words traced by our pen shall lead to a more widespread sympathy with our friends in Berwick, and a more hearty effort to aid them in the accomplishment of their praiseworthy purposes.

Will our hard-worked brethren chide us if we say that this sympathy should begin in the Conference? The mere appointment of a Committee who shall have charge of the religious services is not enough. Such Committees have been, if we mistake not, annually named, but we doubt if at any Conference a report respecting the camp-meeting of the previous year has been placed on the President's table. From frequent remarks, as well as from the apparent misplacing of men, and injudicious use of ammunition, one inferred, during the late meeting, the absence of a board of management entrusted with efficient powers. It is needless to say that the President of the Association, the Rev. F. H. W. Pickles, did all that could possibly be done by an energetic, deeply-interested man, but, as we watched his efforts to provide for the proper maintenance of the frequent services, we felt confident that he might have said, "Careest thou not that my brethren have left me to serve alone?" Bid them, therefore, that they help me." Such expostulation would not have been the utterance of one unwisely "careful and troubled about many things." Upon Methodism, aye more, upon the general religious life of that part of Nova Scotia, the annual gathering at Berwick is calculated to exercise a most important influence. Let the members of the Camp-meeting Association then receive from the Conference all the practical assistance that can possibly be given them.

To render the Berwick camp-meeting a success, financial aid is also necessary. The members of the Association—nearly all of them residents at or near Berwick—have already had to bear a burden by no means light. Some of them, from no weariness in well-doing, but through the pressure in financial circles, most stoop

under the burden. And yet those beautiful grounds, from which, in successive years, prayer and praise have ascended heavenward, and with which some of the holiest memories of earth will be associated throughout eternity, can only be rendered thoroughly fit for their hallowed use by a considerable expenditure of money. A part at least of the expense to which the Association is subject ought to be borne by the neighboring circuits. These share largely in the spiritual benefits of the holy convocation, while they know little of the care and inconvenience suffered by those Methodists whose dwellings are in the immediate vicinity. Returning to their homes and churches refreshed in body and strengthened in spirit they are prepared to exert a happy influence on those with whom they meet and to lead them towards a higher life. It is not too much to ask that those that reap these spiritual blessings should sustain the agency through which they are received by contributing of these temporal things. The responsibility, however, belongs to a wider sphere. A higher spiritual life in one part of our Conference must in time be felt by the membership everywhere. For this reason, and because of the fact that the members of the Berwick Camp-meeting Association in their efforts to maintain the annual gatherings here had no selfish purpose in view, but the benefit of the Church, spiritually and financially, we commend them without any solicitation on their part, to a more generous regard on the part of the Methodists of this province than they have hitherto received. T. W. S.

On Monday evening, the Rev. Jacob Freshman will deliver his lecture on the "Manners and Customs of the Jews, in Freemason's Hall, in this city." Mr. Freshman is a member of the Montreal Conference who has been granted a year's rest from ministerial work on account of ill health. He is the son of a converted Jewish Rabbi, and will appear in the garb of a Rabbi and exhibit all the different articles used during divine worship. The Rev. gentleman has lectured in several places in New Brunswick, and the press of that province speak of his lecture as being one of particular interest and instruction.

The scholars of Charles Street Sabbath School, accompanied by their officers and teachers, held their annual Picnic on Wednesday, 3rd inst., at the beautiful grounds of Mr. Hosterman, at the North West Arm. The weather was all that could be desired, and the children as well as a large number of visitors thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

We call special attention to the announcements on the eighth page, of meetings to be held by the several Districts in connection with the Relief and Extension Fund.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Outline of English Grammar for the use of Junior Classes by C. F. Mason, B.A., F.C.P., Fellow of University College, London, has been received. This book is one of the Educational Series published by Adam Millar & Co., Toronto. It is the first Canadian Edition of the Sixth English Edition. It is a volume of 168 pages. The exercises in this edition have been greatly amplified, and entirely remodelled upon the plan adopted in the recently published "Shorter English Grammar" by the same author. The work is admirably bound.

"Plant Sweet Flowers on my Grave," is a piece of music for the Piano, published by F. W. Helmick, 136 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati.

A Report upon the Preventive Measures to be used in limiting the extension of diphtheria within the Province, has been laid upon the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, and is worthy of being carefully read and preserved.

Lawry's Musical Journal, for September is received from the Wholesale and Retail establishment of Landry & Co., 58 King St., St. John, N. B. This number contains several pieces of music for the Piano, with a considerable amount of the latest musical and other items.

POSTAL CARDS.

St. Martin's, Sept. 8, 1879. MR. EDITOR.—You will be pleased to hear that we have succeeded in getting our Sunday school organized with encouraging prospects. There has never before been a Methodist Sunday school in the town. Our deserving popular minister, Rev. W. J. Kinay, will, we trust, be able to meet with us at least once a month to stimulate and encourage all interested in the Christian education of the young.

In compliance with an invitation from the First Quarterly Official meeting of the St. Martin's Circuit, the St. John District will hold its annual District meeting in May in the Chester Street Methodist church, St. Martin's. The Superintendent intends (D. V.) holding some open air meetings on this circuit on Sunday, 28th inst., weather permitting. Ministers from adjoining circuits will be present and assist on that occasion.

A melancholy accident occurred in this place on Thursday, 4th inst. Messrs. James L. Flewelling and Wm. Powers were in the wood just back of the town hunting some cattle. They had a fewling piece with them, and as a bird of some kind was passing, Mr. Flewelling levelled the gun "a breach loader," to shoot it; but unfortunately the barrel burst and the cartridge case struck him on temple, over the right eye, causing almost instant death. Deceased was about 37 years old, and much respected by all who knew him. He leaves a sorrowing wife, one child, and a large number of other relatives to mourn their loss. Yesterday afternoon a very large concourse assembled in the Baptist church to pay him their last tribute of re-

spect. An impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. J. R. Campbell, (Episcopal), from James iv. 13-14. IOTA.

The Liverpool Financial District meeting was held on Tuesday, Sept. 7th, at Petite Riviere. There was a good attendance of ministers and laymen. All the business was duly discharged. Special attention was given to the Relief and Extension Fund, the chairman and brethren taking the matter up heartily. In connection with the District gathering four meetings were held on behalf of this fund with encouraging success at Petite Riviere, LaFave Ferry, Ritecy's Cove and Mill Village. It was arranged to hold other meetings throughout the District, and we hope our people will respond liberally.

If the entire Connexion supported this important fund, by bringing "all the tithes into the storehouse, and there they may be met in God's house, and prove him herewith." He will give us abundant temporal and spiritual prosperity.

The meetings for the purpose of raising money for the Relief and Extension Fund for the Methodist Church of Canada, were held at Mount Stewart circuit on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd inst., with remarkable success. On a circuit (where before this year only 7 or 8 dollars could be raised for missionary purposes,) the handsome sum of over \$50.00 was realized. This is owing chiefly to the fact that the minister of the circuit Rev. Mr. Lawson took an active interest in advocating the claims of the society. One could not but admire his Christian, unselfish and self-losing spirit, when after suffering a large deficiency in his salary last year, he would say when asked a question like this was asked him (had I not better give the subscription on your salary?) no the debt must be paid. If all the ministers take the interest in raising the sum that Bro. Lawson has, more than double will be realized.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ALMA, A. C., Sept. 8th, 1879.

MR. EDITOR.—We are having a time of refreshing in this locality. The Lord is smiling upon us. The church is being revived, and some thirty persons have sought for salvation, been accepted of God and are now "rejoicing in the Lord." The work, we believe, is just commencing—the congregations are daily increasing and greater interest is being manifested. We are praying, working for, and expecting a "grand harvest," a gathering in of "immortal sheaves."

The new church in course of erection at Point Wolfe will, in a few weeks time, be ready for dedication. Our people deserve praise for the energy and tact displayed by them in this noble enterprise. The building, when completed, will be an ornament to the locality in which it is placed, and the people are looking forward to the hour when they shall enter into "His gates with praise," and worship the God of their fathers in the earthly courts of Zion. S. C. W.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE JEWS.

Rev. E. Evans, of Fredericton, writes us respecting Rev. Jacob Freshman's lecture on the Jews, twice delivered in that city. He says:

"I am glad that I had the opportunity of hearing it, for it is a fruitful of information on a subject not often brought before our people. By the exhibition of the garments, fringes, phylacteries, and mezuzoth for the doorposts, with the lucid explanations given, the interest of the audience is awakened and valuable knowledge communicated especially adapted for biblical students. The education of a Jewish boy is described till he becomes thirteen and a son of the commandment (Bar Mitzvah) and therefore obliged to observe the precepts of the rabbies. In a glowing manner the prayers of the Jews are described, their number, brevity and application to every benefit received, every event that occurs and every action performed. This description is one of the most beautiful and eloquent parts of the lecture. The synagogue worship is fully described and a beautiful small parchment roll containing the book of Esther in the Hebrew is shown, with an account of its use in the Feast of Purim when the deliverance of the nation from the hatred of Haman is commemorated.

In a brief but comprehensive method he describes the Talmud and its component parts the Mishra and Gemara pronouncing a most appreciative and fervent eulogium thereon which could only come from the lips of one who gloried in it as a vast repository of the wisdom of his own ancestors. The vitality, persecutions, attainments, and triumphs of the Hebrew race were vividly portrayed. I hope you will secure him a good audience in Halifax, for whether we consider the interest surrounding the subject, the method of its treatment, or fervid eloquence of the lecturer, it is one of the best and most useful lectures I have listened to.

MOUNT STEWART, P. E. I., August 24th, 1879.

MR. EDITOR.—Mount Stewart has the honor I believe in leading the campaign on the "Relief and Extension Fund" in the Lower Provinces, and may entertain feelings of pardonable pride in the first-fruits of success in this laudable enterprise. We held a meeting in all our Churches. Mount Stewart, Dunstafferage and Black River. At each place there was but a small congregation, not more than eighty in all, preachers, and the wife of one counted. Still those were of the right stamp and gave freely of their substance to the Lord, the largest church had the smallest congregation yet a collection of \$1.06 was taken and \$20.00 promised in subscription. At Dunstafferage the collection was \$1.56 and subscriptions promised \$12.50. At Black River (a small and new place) the collection was \$1.30 and subscriptions \$15.25, making a total of \$51.67. Our success under God was due to the earnest, eloquent and very practical addresses of Brother Hagarty the Deputation, who

out of a full heart, pressed home upon the people the all important and absolute necessity of decided action in the matter in hand. Our meeting and fellowship with Bro. H. was most pleasant, refreshing and profitable, indeed the meetings were more like revivals than anything I have known on this circuit, and feel sure it! Comparatively speaking our circuit to the poorest "Go and do likewise."

You will see this is specially commendable when I say we have made extra excursions since Conference in aid of our pension fund and have paid over \$90.00 for furniture. Till but recently it would not have been difficult to raise several hundreds of dollars for the end contemplated by our Missionary Society or any philanthropic object. Things have changed however very materially, and this once very busy and good wages to hundreds of that profitable craft has brought up its hammers and all is dead. The clergy has departed in this and some other respects, surely as that the place is finding its level and will be all the better for it and will not be a healthier business pulse if it does not too largely enter upon ship-building again, since many ruined themselves by selling their farms to work in the ship yards. They have taught others, none now would be tempted into their folly, so there will be employment for the few who must remain on the several ships which are to be built this season. We are hoping for a memorable year in the spring, reclaiming and sanctifying of men. May the Lord grant it, Amen.

NOTES FROM GIBSON.

The hand of Providence has directed me to one of the pleasantest and in many respects most desirable circuits in the Conference. The congregations are encouraging, and the people are very kind and ready to cooperate in every good work. We have three classes that are centres of power. I have an interesting class of children meeting in my study on Friday afternoons. The Gibson union Sunday school under the superintendence of Bro. Wm. Davenport is growing in attendance and efficiency and is a great blessing to the village.

We expect to build a church in Gibson next spring. I have obtained subscriptions to the enterprise amounting to \$70. Robert and Joseph Macklin have given the land. Alex. Gibson, Esq., whose liberality never fails, heads the list with \$300.00. P. W. Logan, our warm hearted Steward, E. R. Burpee, and James Pickard subscribed \$100 each. The list has just been opened and we hope to bring up this aggregate of subscriptions to \$1200 or \$1300.

I had the pleasure of officiating at an interesting ceremony at Bro. Logan's house last Thursday morning, when his eldest daughter was married to Mr. Ristone, one of the railway officials.

The ladies of Robinson, Marysville, and Gibson, held a bazaar at Robinson, on the 7th inst. Mrs. Gibson, of Marysville, is the leading spirit in the enterprise, though in the 79th year of her age. She is "never weary in well doing." MATTHEW R. KNIGHT.

NEW BRUNSWICK & P. E. ISLAND CONFERENCE.

MR. EDITOR.—As the Treasurers of the General Conference Fund require the amounts collected in the several Conferences as soon as possible, may I request that Superintendents of Circuits will remit to me at their earliest convenience the collections taken for this Fund on the Second Sabbath of August last. JOSEPH HART, Treasurer.

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.

STATISTICS FOR 1879.

DEAR BRO. CURRIE.—Presuming that all the readers of your excellent WESLEYAN would be interested in having placed before them a brief summary of our numerical status. I forward you the following tables:—

Table with 2 columns: Conference Name and Number of Members. Includes Toronto, London, Montreal, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland Conferences.

This shows a net increase of 7 for the year. The number who died was 21. The number of supernumerary and supernumerary ministers is 172. There are 172 young men on probation, 59 of whom are allowed to attend college, 30 were received on trial at the last Conference.

2. CIRCUITS AND MISSIONS.

Table with 2 columns: Conference Name and Number of Circuits/Missions. Includes Toronto, London, Montreal, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland Conferences.

3. MEMBERS.

Table with 2 columns: Conference Name and Number of Members. Includes Toronto, London, Montreal, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland Conferences.

4. SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Table with 3 columns: Conference Name, Schools, and Teachers. Includes Toronto, London, Montreal, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland Conferences.

An increase for the year of 9 schools, 394 teachers, and 2,637 scholars. The number of conversions reported for the year is 5,192. GEO. H. CORNISH, Burlington, Ont., Sept. 1879.

MR. EDITOR.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your issue of the 12th inst. and to thank you for the interesting and valuable information it contains. I have read with much interest the account of the Berwick Camp Meeting, and am glad to hear that the work of the Lord is prospering there. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at Point Wolfe, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at Robinson, and am glad to hear that the ladies of Robinson, Marysville, and Gibson, held a bazaar at Robinson, on the 7th inst. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at Mount Stewart, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at Black River, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at Dunstafferage, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. John, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. Stephen, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. Mary's, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. James, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. George, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. Andrew, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. Nicholas, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. Peter, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. Paul, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. John the Baptist, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. John the Evangelist, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. John the Apostle, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. I have also read with interest the account of the meeting at St. John the Virgin, and am glad to hear that the church is being revived. 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