

# The Provincial Wesleyan.

timony of the saints, as well as by our own experience, to faint.

"God moves in a mysterious way,  
His wonders to perform."  
Every act of his providence is a germ pregnant with good, and every part of his administration is fraught with the elements of improvement; and in the mortification of unholiness lusts, in the softening down of our asperities of temper, in the cultivation of inordinate creature love, in the overthrow of vain worldly confidence, in the promotion of our humility, in the perfecting of our submission, in the strengthening of our confidence, in the increase of our spirituality, in the elevation of our affections, in the endowment of heaven, and in abundant spiritual consolations shall we reap a rich and overflowing harvest of light and gladness.

T. S.

### Preaching of the Pew and the Pulpit.

There is no more effectual preacher of the gospel than the life of a truly consistent Christian. Though he were deaf and dumb, and incapable of vocal utterance in testimony of the truth, the silent, subtle influence of his character and life would speak with a force, and argue with a resistlessness, which the voice of the most silver-tongued orator could not surpass. The tenderness of a truly spiritual mind; the persuasiveness of a countenance beaming with benevolence; the logic of an humble, gentle, truthful, loving life, would make their way to the heart of the beholder, when access to his head might be choked up with doubts, suspicions and cavils. Men who could never be reasoned into faith, may be drawn thither by the attractive light that continually radiates from the life of a godly walk. It is preaching which has no necessary, or compulsory, mission; the week day as well as the Sabbath, the road side as well as the sanctuary; in the midst of cares and business, the silent sermon goes on, enforcing its lessons and making its impression.

Thus every professor is a preacher, ordained and installed, and invested with a charge, to whom he is ministering for good or evil, at all times. The week-day sermon may be as important as the Sabbath-day discourse. It is safe to say that if doctrine and its influence be adverse to that heard in the sanctuary, the latter can do but little good. The preaching of the pulpit may be confronted and argued down, but the preaching of the life, the neighborhood and the place of business. This is a species of dialectics that is often carried on—pastor and people occupying, uncared for, but virtually, the position of antagonist orators, appealing to those who are without, with their contradictory strains. What the pulpit strenuously and tearfully asserts, the pew flatly denies. The claims of God's law, of Christ's love, of the eternal interests, set forth in persuasive tones on Sunday; the conflicting claims of the world, of the flesh, of pleasure and gain are preached all the week. The pulpit asserts the superiority of the unseen and spiritual over the seen and temporal, and urges men to forsake all to win the heavenly crown; but the pew practically declares that though the heaven is valuable, it is not worth the sacrifice of earth, and fittingly says, "I will not forsake my father and my mother, and my kindred, and my country, to follow thee." The pulpit tries to save the soul; the pew tries to save the body. The pulpit looks on the two, amused at the discrepancy, unmoved by both.

To be effectual, the gospel should be preached both by pew and pulpit. Enforced by godly example, and clothed with the persuasiveness which sincerity and fervid feelings always possess, its warnings and appeals could hardly be resisted. There is a great want of moral power in the practical conflict which often exists between religion preached and religion practiced. The energy and courage of the preacher are impaired, and the force of the truth is lessened. We get a glimpse of the truth in the pulpit, might, if seconded by the faithful, praying, consistent pew, in times of revival, when Christian life and Christian doctrine are brought for a time into harmony. What solemnity gathers upon a congregation, when the sacred words of warning or invitation of the preacher, pass to the sinner's heart through an electric atmosphere of prayer? What reality does the truth of religion become, when the beams from the moistened eye and heaving heart of the Christian alive in revival? There is a philosophy, as well as experience in this; and happy is the preacher who has a proof of this in the faithfulness and zeal of his devoted hearers. He has a perpetual illustration at hand—an argument that will make its way where all other arguments fail.

### The Charms of Life.

There are a thousand things in this world to afflict and sadden—but, oh, how many that are beautiful and good! The world teems with beauty—with objects that gladden the eye and warm the heart. We might be happy if we would. There are all the pleasures we can desire—the approach of disease and death, of misfortune, of suffering, of care, and theanker worm of grief, but a vast majority of the evils that beset us might be avoided. The curse of intemperance, which is woven as it is with the ligaments of society, is one which never strikes but to destroy. There is not one bright page upon the record of our progress, nothing to shield it from the heart's execrations of the human race. It should not exist—it must not. Do away with all this; let war come to an end, and let friendship, charity, love, purity, and kindness mark the intercourse between man and man. We are too selfish, if the world was made for us alone. How much happier should we be were we to labour more earnestly to promote each other's good. God has blest us with a home which is not all dark. There is sunshine every where—in the sky, upon the earth—there would be no more wars if we would look around us. The storms die away, and the bright sun shines out. Summer drops her tented curtains upon the earth, which is very beautiful, even when autumn's breath is changing breath upon it. God reigns in Heaven.

### Sleeping in Church.

It is a matter of record that, about one hundred years ago, an Indian was conducted by a priest deacon to witness the service of the sanctuary on the Lord's day. When the services were ended, the citizen, on their way homeward, in order to impress upon his tawny friend the superiority of Christianity over heathenism, entered into a detail of the money appropriated for the support of which he was a member for the support of public worship, the erection of the house, the salary of the minister, &c. To all this the son of the forest, who had observed the assembly, answered, "Emph! Indians sleep just as sound under their trees, and not pay anything."—*New York Observer.*

## Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1852.

### Editorial Correspondence.

MY DEAR BROTHERS.—We made the passage from Halifax to Boston in the *Sir John Harvey*, in about forty hours, which, to all except very impatient people ought to be considered a reasonable time. With some necessary improvements in ventilating the cabin and saloon, this regular steam communication between Halifax and Boston will prove a great boon to the travelling public, and with the Cunard steamers, will afford every facility of transacting business between the two countries. I remained some hours in Boston, thence proceeded to Newark, N. J., where I spent nearly a whole day with my friends, and in the evening took a seat in the rail-cars for this city. See what can be done in the way of expeditions travelling in these days. I left Halifax on Tuesday evening last at 8 o'clock, spent 6 hours in Boston, and 10 hours in Newark, and reached Baltimore at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning! Thanks, under Providence, to steam boats and rail roads.

I received a hearty welcome from our excellent friend, Dr. Roberts, and family. The doctors look back with pleasure on his brief visit to our country, with only one exception, the advantage which was taken of him by the Western Convention, and his exertions in conveying him from Bridgetown to Windsor, and the attempt to draw another sum from his purse to forward him from Windsor to Halifax. A repetition of such acts towards American travellers will not tend to raise our country in their estimation. Yet, such is the christian principle of my friend, that although feeling an advantage had been taken of his circumstances, I have reason to believe, had he opportunity, he would make recompense by conveying the party ten or twenty miles without charge!

Saturday was very stormy here, with high winds and rain falling in torrents all the day; since then, the weather has been delightfully pleasant—the mornings and evenings cool, something like I imagine you are enjoying in Nova Scotia. You will see by the papers that the storm of Saturday has been very disastrous in its effect in the State of New Jersey. In Monmouth County, it is said that the roads were all gullied and cut up; three-fourths of all the bridges, at least, were torn up; more than half the great crop of the county was partially or wholly prostrated; many potatoes were washed out of the ground, and an immense amount of fruit was beaten from the trees, which were seriously injured; and the probability is, that a hundred thousand dollars worth of damage was sustained in the mere washing away of fertile soil in that county alone. I give these particulars as a specimen of the injury which probably has been experienced in other parts of the Union by this recent storm.

A fearful storm has lately occurred at Mobile, the loss of property was supposed at first to be about a million of dollars, but later accounts estimate it at about half that amount.

I need not, however, enlarge on news figures, as I forward you a paper or two containing interesting items of this kind; only I may mention, that it is designed to erect in the neighborhood of Washington an asylum for the insane of the District of Columbia, and of the Army and Navy of the United States, for the erection, furnishing, and fitting up of which, and for the purchase of the site, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars has been inserted in the civil appropriation bill passed by Congress. Will not Nova Scotia place herself on a level with other christian countries, by the erection within its borders of an Asylum for the insane, that most unfortunate class of our fellow creatures, whose circumstances need a special sympathy to the deepest sympathies of the human heart?

The Methodists here are still engaged in their usual work of striving to save souls, and furnish accommodation to destitute parts of the city for the religious instruction of the young, and the public worship of God, by erecting Sabbath-school-houses, and Churches. Our late esteemed Chairman, the Rev. Dr. Evans, who here on May last, attended the ceremony of laying the corner stone of a Seaman's Chapel, which is now nearly finished, and is shortly to be opened by suitable services. They are making collections in the Churches of Baltimore City to pay for Spring Garden Chapel, situated in the Southern eastern part of the City, recently added to this Station, and which has already gathered a large Sabbath-School and a good congregation, and which promises to secure still greater beneficial results to the increasing population which continues to locate there. In all probability a large church will be required here in the course of a few months. Church-extension is an important item in the practical duty of the Baltimore Methodists. They do not wait until a people send for them, but they go and take up a position in advance, and are ready to commence operations as soon as the people appear. In this way, they provide for the spiritual wants of the constantly increasing population of the City. We suppose the same plan is acted upon to a greater or less extent in other cities of the Union. The result is beneficial. The work of christian extension and saving of souls, advances; religious societies are formed; and the church multiplies her converts and her power.

The usual Camp Meetings have been held within the bounds of the Baltimore Conference, followed by the awakening and conversion of many souls, and by additions to the church. At the present time, special services are being held in several of the M. E. Churches in Baltimore City, and the prospects for good are very encouraging. May the Lord show plentifully, abundantly, and graciously the fruit of convincing and converting the proud and crown of the zealous and devoted servants of Christ with unparalleled success!

I must bring these remarks to a close, by wishing you and yours every blessing in Christ Jesus.

Baltimore, Md., August 30th.

### Conference Intelligence.

[CONTINUED.]

TUESDAY, August 10.

BOOK AFFAIRS.—The Editors of the Conference were presented to the Editors of the Magazine, to the Book Steward, and the Secretaries of the Book and Tract Committees, and also to the Committee, for their able and efficient services during the past year.

Mr. Thornton said, no earthly recompense was so valuable to him, as the approval of the Methodist Conference, and he urged further contributions to the Wesleyan periodicals from the Ministers.

Mr. Marsden especially referred to the labours of Mr. Mason, and to his great success in redeeming the Book-room from embarrassments in which it was placed when he took office.

Mr. Waugh corroborated the observations of Mr. Marsden.

The thanks of the Conference were presented to the Rev. S. Jackson and the Sub-Committee which had conducted the *Wesleyan Visitor*. The thanks of the Conference were also pro-

ferred to Mr. John Farrar for the service he had rendered to the Connexion by the publication of his *Biblical and Theological Dictionary*. Mr. Hayton, who moved the resolution, remarked on the value of the spiritual character of the work, and hoped its circulation would be equal to its excellence. Mr. Holgate seconded, and Mr. Tobias supported the resolution.

Thanks were presented to the Auditors of the Book-room accounts.

Mr. Thornton moved the thanks of the Conference to Mr. Cole, for the services he had rendered to the Rule, in preparing "The Martyrs of the Reformation," and other works.—Mr. McBrat very cordially seconded the resolution, and stated that the works referred to in the resolution, ("The Martyrs of the Reformation," and "The Brand of Dominic") were highly estimated by the literati of Edinburgh. He wished that means were taken to make the Wesleyan Publications even more generally known. He had heard a minister say, in a Conference was nothing in theology equal to Watson's Institutes and "Trophy on the Eternal Sonship."—After a few remarks from Mr. Arthur, the resolution was carried unanimously, and acknowledged by Mr. Rule.

THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION.—Mr. Johnson referred to the Report, stating that the funds were in an improving state, but that there were one hundred Credits, which were not yet applied. A series of resolutions was unanimously and heartily passed, expressive of gratitude at the present state of the institution, and of thanks to the President, (Dr. Banting), the tutors, the government, the general treasurers and secretaries, for their able and efficient services during the past year.

The Stationing Committee returned to the Conference and the Stations were read for the first time, without remark.

WEDNESDAY, August 11.

MORNING SITTING.

After some preliminary business, the Conference continued the revision of the Stations, during nearly the whole of the morning.

CONFERENCE OF 1852.—The President announced that he had received communications from Birmingham and Bradford, in relation to the Conference of 1852.

Dr. Alder, in recommending the application from Bradford, observed that during his long public life he had known of no Circuit which had so much led him to adore the good providence of God for his appointment to it. He had been well loved by the people, and by his colleagues, and had done his best uniformly and conscientiously to conserve all the interests entrusted to him by the Conference. It was most agreeable to him to invite the Conference to the town of Bradford, where they would have a most cordial welcome.

THURSDAY, August 12.

IRISH CONFERENCE.—The Rev. John Scott, President of the Conference, was appointed the President of the next Conference in Ireland, to be held at Cork, June 25, 1853. The Ex-President were appointed, the Rev. Dr. Hannan and the Rev. Dr. Newton.

CANADA.—The Rev. Enock Wood was appointed President of the next Conference in Canada; and the Rev. John Ryerson, Co-Deputy.

WESLEYAN EDUCATION.—The Rev. J. Gilchrist Wilson read the Resolutions of the Committee.

The Ex-President moved, and the Rev. T. Jackson seconded the adoption and reception of the Report, which was unanimously carried.

The President said, the Report that received implied that the brethren would arrange to hold meetings in their Districts and Circuits, to obtain funds to pay off the balance due on the Normal Seminary at Westminster. Many of the Districts and Circuits had had such meetings, and had done so without injury to the interests, and with great satisfaction. No meeting had been held where they were not pleased that such a meeting had been held. They must raise the remaining £2,000, yet wanted to complete the payment of all the expenses of the Normal Training School at Westminster, because they were pledged to the Government that the debt should remain. Another purpose would be collected. They ought to have week-day schools, conducted by competent religious persons, under Ministerial supervision, wherever they could. It was not desirable either that the children of their people should be sent to the Poyntis schools, or that they should be left without instruction in their own language. He stated, some of their people were sending their children to Roman Catholic schools for week-day instruction. This was subjecting such to certain alienation to Methodism. This tendency they made out in a way very satisfactory to the people when they had an opportunity of holding an educational meeting among themselves. He would also say that they had now fifty students under training, promising to be very Christian, young people, sound Methodists, and devoted to their work. Great pains was taken with them to give them right views, and that they might proceed to their destination under right influences.

Mr. Rattenbury remarked, that the Institution at Westminster was in a most hopeful state of prosperity. He fully concurred in the views put forth by the President. If they could gain £2,000 more, the whole Institution would be their own and free from debt, if the amounts were paid up. A building which had cost £38,000 would be free from debt, and be a Methodist institution. If they had educational meetings in those parts of the Connexion where none had yet been held, the £2,000 would be quickly raised. In all cases where meetings had been held, they had tended to give to ministers, and to an increased interest in day-school instruction.

After some observations by Mr. George Taylor, the resolutions were put by the Ex-President, and carried unanimously.

Dr. Beecham moved a resolution (now the President of the Conference) for his valuable services. The following Address, of a very high character. He had taken that position in the Institution which was fitting—expressing a powerful influence over the whole establishment; the masters and teachers were kept in their proper place; and the whole was in a state of order that was admired by all who visited the institution. He was adapting the Glasgow system to Methodism in the most satisfactory manner. He had entered on a course of Theological and Ecological Lectures which afforded important instruction to those under training—giving them our own peculiar theory, and fortifying their minds with sound views.

Mr. Osborn had great pleasure in seconding the resolution, and in bearing his testimony to the untiring assiduity and sleepless vigilance which the affairs of the Normal Institution had been carried on during the year. On the general question he wished he could say a few words more in praise of the Institution, and more especially general attention, their Consociation would be seriously damaged. There were more than one party in the country sedulously taking up the subject; and if any one of those parties obtained extensive influence, it must be to their cost and disadvantage. If the High Church party successfully pressed their projects, and the Secularists their, all their gain would be lost

to the Connexion. Those conversant with the working of many of their Circuits, knew that there was a fierce contest going on, as to who should educate the children of the people. Their sphere of usefulness would be narrowed, unless the efforts of the parties referred to were concentrated on the part of the brethren at large. Eleven years ago, it had been suggested by him to the Conference, to set aside some one of its Ministers for the work of education; and he was happy now to say, that the Conference had set apart one of its most distinguished members for that work. He besought the brethren to bend all their strength in order to contract the system of education, and to push that system upon the colonies; and, through that medium, upon themselves. No pains or expense were spared by those who were practical infidels; and, in his opinion, the Conference was bound, in the name of the Lord, to step in and do it.

The resolution was carried with great cordiality, and unanimously, and duly acknowledged by the President.

FRENCH MISSION.—Mr. G. Osborn read the resolution of the Missionary Committee, containing the provisional arrangements for the more effectual carrying on of the work in France.

Dr. Beecham said, the subject of forming the French Mission into a separate Committee, had been carefully considered at the French District Meeting. One of the Secretaries was appointed to visit France for the purpose of investigating the question, and making the needful arrangements. He (Dr. Beecham) had visited Paris, and had examined the best in all its bearings, and had done his best to give a full and true report to the Conference, and the result, which he had no doubt, will be satisfactory. The plan, in its general character, was based on that which had been so successfully carried out in forming Conferences in Ireland and Canada. \* \* \* Dr. Beecham then read over the articles, commenting upon them as he proceeded, and, in conclusion, he recommended that they should be adopted, as well calculated to preserve the connexional system.

Dr. Cook observed, that he had been rarely privileged to address the Conference. Dr. Beecham had said, that he (Dr. Beecham) had presented the matter imperfectly; but he (Dr. Cook) could not but to the clearness of the statements which had just been made. The proposal which Dr. Beecham had presented, which he had undertaken to do, had arisen out of the feeling, that the evangelization of such a country as France could not have no doubt, will be satisfactory. The plan, in its general character, was based on that which had been so successfully carried out in forming Conferences in Ireland and Canada. \* \* \* Dr. Beecham then read over the articles, commenting upon them as he proceeded, and, in conclusion, he recommended that they should be adopted, as well calculated to preserve the connexional system.

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MEMBERS IN SOCIETY.—The Return of Members, as compiled from the District Secretaries, was presented, the numbers being as follows:—

|                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| In Great Britain        | 281,262 |
| In Ireland              | 29,040  |
| In Foreign Stations     | 101,378 |
| Total                   | 402,641 |
| Being a net decrease of | 18,494  |

On trial for membership—

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| In Great Britain    | 13,304 |
| In Foreign Stations | 5,349  |
| Total on trial      | 18,653 |

The President observed, that although the report appeared to be discouraging, yet there were favourable indications, as a considerable increase in members had taken place during the last two quarters.

REVISION OF DR. NEWTON.—The President said, he should not like Dr. Newton to be absent from the Conference, but he was sorry to hear that he was unable to do so. He was sure that the brethren would sympathize with him, and would do all in their power to assist him in his work.

Mr. F. A. West moved a resolution, to the effect, that the Conference having heard that Dr. Newton deemed it necessary, from advancing years and growing infirmities, to retire from the regular work of the Ministry, could not allow the occasion to pass, without expressing its deep regret, and its hope, that all the consolations of the divine presence and blessing would be vouchsafed to him; and without, at the same time, assuring him of the high esteem of his brethren, and of the people among whom he had laboured, with eminent honour and usefulness, for more than half a century.

The motion was carried by acclamation.—To all the members of the Conference rising, to testify their respect and cordial acquiescence.

Dr. Newton, in acknowledgment said, he could not express his feelings towards the President and his brethren. There were no men whose esteem he so greatly prized. He had been permitted to devote a long life to the cause of Wesleyan Methodism; and he had never intentionally neglected the duties which had devolved upon him. His course must now decline. He could no longer, as had been his custom, preach every day, and encounter the fatigue of long journeys. Still, however he could do, in the cause of Wesleyan Methodism, which he believed to be the cause of apostolic Christianity, he would cheerfully perform all that lay before him. He thought that he now retired, with the approval and affection of his brethren, was more than he could expect. He trusted that there would be a growing disposition among his brethren to submit to each other in the Lord;—that, as Wesleyan Ministers, they would be as one heart and one mind; and that the great Cause in which they were associated would go on while the sun and moon endured.

Mr. Young said, Mr. President, I readily respond to your call, and will briefly express my views and feelings in relation to the appointment with which the Conference has been pleased to honour me. When I appeared before the District Meeting, as a candidate for the ministry, I distinctly remember saying in reply to a question put to me by the chairman, that in the cause of Christ, I was willing to go from the river to the end of the earth. I am thankful to say, I have ever retained that willingness; and now, after the lapse of thirty-two years, and when the age of youth is gone, am prepared, in the name of the Lord, to exemplify it. He who understands the thoughts of man, and all the emotions of the human heart, knows that I conceive myself utterly unworthy of the distinction to which I am called, and that my feelings shrink from it; but I would occupy any post, sustain any cross, endure any toil, and encounter any danger, rather than not be found in the post of duty, faithfully attending to my proper work. I am very solicitous to be in my right position, and to serve my generation by the will of God. I could not, however, have felt it my duty to undertake the important duty of a minister, had I not been prepared to do so. I have the entire approval of my judgment; and nothing shall be an obstacle to my going to the post to which I am appointed. I am not ignorant of the difficulties and delicate questions to be dealt with by the deputation; but the Conference may rest assured,

in dealing with them, no principle shall be compromised, and that adequate provisions shall be made for the unimpaired efficiency of our beloved Methodism. I admire more than ever our beautiful system. The events of the last three years have led me to examining it with more care, and although I would not claim for it perfection, it is my deep conviction, that as respects its scriptural character, and spiritual efficiency, there is nothing like it under the sun. Its parish is the world, and its doctrine and discipline give it a remarkable adaptation to every portion of that parish. So far from its mission being fulfilled, as some persons have the boldness to assert, it is my unwavering belief, that its mission is just begun, and that it is destined to gain triumph more signal and glorious than it has ever yet achieved. It has lately been in conflict with unfriendly elements, but happily the tempest is subsiding, and from the present aspect of things, I have no doubt, that if God shall spare me to return and meet you at the Conference of 1854, I shall be able to say, with grateful emotion,—"Lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come; and the voice of the turtle is heard in the land." You will permit me earnestly to solicit the prayers of my brethren, that I may not only be preserved in safety, but have wisdom from above, to discharge, with fidelity and success, the important duties confided to me; and that the divine blessing may abundantly rest, not only upon myself and esteemed Company; but upon the whole Mission party, for us; not only upon our prayer-meetings, and Society-meetings, engage the sympathies and prayers of our beloved people, in behalf of this new and great undertaking; and the result, which I have no doubt, will be satisfactory. The plan, in its general character, was based on that which had been so successfully carried out in forming Conferences in Ireland and Canada. \* \* \* Dr. Beecham then read over the articles, commenting upon them as he proceeded, and, in conclusion, he recommended that they should be adopted, as well calculated to preserve the connexional system.

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