

### WESLEYAN ТНЕ

## THE WESLEYAN

## SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1878.

#### A YEAR'S MINISTERIAL HAPPI NESS;-SHALL WE GAIN IT? HOW?

Ten thousand hands would be held out to us, with liberal rewards, if we could but convince our readers that we possessed the secret of true serenity and contentment, and could communicate to others some blessed mode of happiness and usefulness. Well,-we know it. This is a knowledge to which most of us can lay claim-in theory at least. We may, however, remind our readers that there is more, far more, in the specific, than mere theory. We allude to that habit, or condition of mind, which keeps the good of others ever uppermost, which sinks self, and exalts God and humanity. It is more than self-abnegation-it is forgetfulness of self.

Every man is somebody to himself. It was one of the maxims of Rochefoucault that the selfish principle is the spring of all human action. It is, perhaps, a false philosophy which holds this opinion. A misanthropical state of mind is very sure to come with the adoption of it, at all events. But without yielding to the maxim its full meaning, we may safely admit that there is always enough selfishness in man to lead him astray, to master him. to bind him ignominiously, except for the grace of God.

Of all professions, that of the ministry should be most free from selfish. ness. It is the very type of all that is noble, self-sacrificing and pure. And yet it would be easy to show that a ministerial life has extraordinary temptations to self-seeking and elf conceit. The most retiring of ministers must sometimes take a public position; and among the multitude there are always at least a few friends and admirers of even the least popular of preachers. These sometimes persuade preachers to "measure themselves by themselves" -and what follows ? Our itinerancy, too, is well adapted to fan the slumbering embers of selfish ambition in human nature. While the better circuits are regarded as so many prizes to be contended for-and there is something quite safe and scriptural in that principle-it is but natural that a little covetousness should occasionally creep in upon the heart, when the prize has fallen into the hands of some other than ourselves. Once in good positions, too, what more natural than a wish to continue there, or, failing in this aim, a new determination to recover our vantage ground at all hazards ? Pleasent society, a full church-treasury, good schools, well furnished apartments-these are metalic rocks toward which the compass of the soul points with persistent tendency. Against these it is possible even to make shipwreck. That there is something better . than gold, more joyous than friends or houses, was what Christ intended to teach disciples who would serve Him His injunction and benediction both apply full well to Methodist ministerial disciples of our own day. "The power o' aiding honest men Should be itsel' a heaven o' pleasure,' sang honest Hugh Miller. The apostle used a different phrase---" Whether we live, we live unto the Lord." We are to forget self-we have espoused a call ing which, like the profession of knight hood in the middle ages, is to claim our strength, our gallantry, our prowess Soul-happiness is to come with selfsacrifice sometimes, if not always. Do we not see the beauty of that pathway which our Lord points out Pressing forward, through toil and opposition, we forget our poor selfish interests, and are absorbed by the duty of the hour. "I live," said the Apostle, "yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Christ before self always to the true workman in this cause. "You have nothing to do," said Wesley, " but save souls." Living in the spirit of this suggestion-consumed by it-we shall not have time or care for the small corroding, fever-producing ambitions of our character and our standing before than worldly philosophy, we are assured by Burke that by fixing the mind strongly on any set of ideas, the sense of present evils may cease to annoy us.

The busiest man, therefore, the man who will have given most thought to his work and least to himself-his own claims and condition, will come next year to Conference the happiest of our brotherhood. In seeking others he will cease to brood over himself. In crucifying self he will prepare the way to rise unto a new life.

## A MOVING MINISTRY !

By the time that this issue of our paper reaches its readers, many of our ministerial brethren in these Eastern Conferences will have been en route to their new appointments. With a loyalty to Methodist law, such as can come only of a devoted love for the entire economy of our church, they are cheerfully responding to the dictum of " the

powers that be," and, like the whirling planets, revolve to shine in another hemisphere. Thus it is that the Methodist ministry, in its itinerancy at least is a system of moral astronomy, governed by certain laws of motion which. though occasionally eccentric, and at times not a little mysterious even to the comprehension of a Newton, are. nevertheless, subservient to the general interests of the common cause. How much we are indebted, for our growth and progress, to this peculiar feature of our economy, it were hard to determine, but certainly it contributes to the life and health, and effectiveness of

Methodism, just as the circulation of the blood keeps up the vitality of the body. It quickens the pulsations of the church, it sends a stream of life through the whole, it distributes a diversity of talent, interchanging a son of consolation" and a "son of thunder," and thus maintains a brotherhood of heart and a community of interest. We are quite willing to be denominated "a church on wheels" so long as we continue a form of "Christianity in earnest, for then our revolutions will be the motion of life on mission of blessing. So has it been during the ecclesiastical year just closing. "The spirit of the living creature has been in the wheels." Amidst great financia: embarrassment arising from serious commercial depression, the work of saving souls and spreading Scriptural holiness has been going on with some success, as our tabulated results will show. "This is the Lord's doing," and the glory shall be His. Content to take the place, though not to share the folly, of the fly in the wheel, which the fable speaks of, we ascribe all the praise to Him whose gracious purposes are being accomplished through our instrumentality. It is in view of this aspect of the matter that our brethren in the minis. try cheerfully resign themselves to all the tossings and commotion of the itinerant wheel. Like the devotees of Juggernaut who religiously cast them. selves beneath the wheels of the ponderous car to be crushed in sacrifice to tneir god, many memories, and many hopes, and many affections, are annually crushed beneath the wheels of our Juggernaut which we admire so muchthe Methodist itinerancy. "Farewells" and "adieus" blend together so closely like the colours of the rainbow, that it is hard to find out where one ends and the other begins. The handkerchief is scarcely waved to welcome the new minister before it is needed to wipe the eyes at parting. The minister himself has scarcely time enough to pitch his tent before he is required to continue his journey-"a stranger and a pilgrim on the earth." Ours, indeed, is a moving ministry. May it continue. such in the highest sense. Meantime we wish our brethren a happy and a prosperous year.

a successful ministry. To go no higher gles of the class referred to during the whose life is corrupt, whose example is Toronto Conference, has had the degree past few years, and who thinks he has also fairly apprehended some of the chief causes of recent commercial trial and disaster. Our young men are, in too many in-

stances, the victims of delusion as regards wealth and the methods of obtaining it. If it were even admittedwhich it is not, by us at least-that money-making is the chief end of life, there are other ways of obtaining it besides shop-keeping. In mechanical, and especially agricultural pursuits, there are equal facilities for obtaining a fortune, with certainly more genuine

independence, than in weighing sugar or measuring cotton. Besides, special gifts are needed for trading as much as for painting, or preaching. Very few young men possess these special gifts. They consequently become the prey of a shrewder class so soon as they venture upon ground with which they are not familiar.

Above all, both our yo ung men and general society with them. have suffered not a little recently by the consequences of trading without capital. Where, amid the rasping competitions of our time, an effort is made to buy and sell without anything to begin with-having rent, taxes, wages, and, withal, heavy interest, to pay out of small profits,the end is not far to forsee.

We advise then, that no young man should enter business for himself-trad. ing business-without 1. Special tact. 2. Special training. 3. Moderate capital. And 4. Not at all, at present, if he can find any other way of working towards independence.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

In the Nova Scotia Station Lists severa names were omitted by the Conference Reporter, among them Rev. J. S. Addy, James H. Buckley, and T. Watson Smith Supernumeraries. Similar omissions may have marked the N. B. and P. E. Island lists, though no complaints have reached us on this head. Conference Reporters, naturally concluding that their sheets under correction are understood to be imperfect, do not scrutinize the names close-Besides, the lists were just as issued from the Stationing Committees on the second reading. The Editor was not in the office but at the Conference when these sheets were published, though probably he would not have noticed the omission had he been at his post.

evil, whose aims are selfish. There are no of Doctor of Divinity conferred on him. great political questions before the coun- by the authorities of Cornell College, try that we can see. Protection, Tariff, Iowa. The Rev. John Potts, pastor of Canada for the Canadians-these are words on which politicians may or may not lay much stress after the elections. Just now they are-pro and con-a convenient subject for controversy. At all events there are no questions of such importance as demand that sacrifices in the interests of party should be made to the injury of a constituency in the relations of pure morality. We may be allowed to quote just now apostolic words, though the selection we are about to make is national and not ecclesiastical-" Wherefore look ye out among you men of honest report." Having secured there, we will answer for their politics !

AMERICAN Methodism-North-has its new Hymn Book, and is very proud of it. It is said by competent judges to be a grand collection. But, of course, tastes differ. On our own side of the line a very different standard of opinion as to Hymn. ology may exist. This will be proved in part this week at Quebec, where our Hymn Book Committee is in session. We shall depend upon others for a report from this very important committee, as the affairs of the Office rendered it absolutely impossible for the Editor to attend.

THE Peace Congress has at length per. fected its work. Reason has triumphed over passion, so that, just now, we are to have no war. This is really a grand triumph of New Testament principles, though the congress may not have known it. Insensibly Christ has been gaining upon the rulers of the earth. One of the effects of peace is prosperity. We see signs of returning steadiness to trade, though it will need long months to recover.

NOVEMBER is the month for meteoric showers. Showers of doctorates come in the leafy month of June. The fall this time has been more than usually varied and abundant. In some instances colleges have not been content to bestow degrees where none existed, but have pro\_ ceeded to duplicate degrees. The famous editor of the New York Advocate for instance, though a D.D. and LL.D. before. has had the latter title anew conferred by an American College. One newspaper suggested in a very original way that degrees might be offered as premiums for subscribers. As if any honorable man would stoop to purchase a good degree, or wear it when not fully earned ! The suggestion is somewhat libellous.

the Elm-street Church, in this city, has received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Western University, Delaware, Ohio. The Rev. W. J. Hunter, pastor of Bloor street Church, Yorkville, has received the same degree from the University of Chicago. May all these excellent brethren long enjoy their literary honors. Toronto of late has been highly favoured in the matter of degrees.-Guardian.

## OUR PARIS LETTER.

SOMETHING ABOUT FRENCH NEWSPA-PERS. IN WHAT RESPECTS THEY ARE INFERIOR. THE YELL OF THE NEWS BOY SILENT IN PARIS, AS ALSO THE YELL OF OTHER BOYS. A VERY SMALL NUMBER OF CHILDREN. DECREASING POPULATION, CAUSES AND EFFECTS.

From our regular Correspondent.

A few days since I bought an illustrat. ed French journal, and before I had half done reading it my hands were black from the imperfect filthy ink with which it was printed. In quality of paper and typography the French papers are far inferior to ours. Certainly not in Paris, and it may be presumed, not in France, is there a newspaper that in material and mechanism will compare with hundreds that are printed in the cities and towns of the United States. The same inferiority may be seen in the French circulars and business cards, which look like those uncanny dirty little scraps that some tradesmen. with a false theory of economy, print for themselves with rubber stamps.

The number of newspapers published n Paris is very large, but few of them are of much use or interest to the stranger. All the numerous parties, shades of parties, and cliques, have, as with us. their special organ. The Legitimists have the Union. the Orleanists the Saleil, the Catho-

lics the Univers. The Bonapartists daily burn incense to the Empire in three journals, L'Ordre, which is the organ of the ex-Prime minister, M. Rouher ; the Pays, edited by the duelist M. Paul de Chassagnac: and the Gaulois a paper largely devoted to dramatic and Parisian news. Republican an Radical organs are too numerus to mention. Perhaps the best paper in France, both in style, matter, and management is Le Temps, which has on its staff some of the most distinguished scholars and literateurs of mo times. M. Sarcey is its dramatic critic, and his articles which are published every Monday are the dicta from which there is no appeal. The political writers of the Le Temps contend with those of the Journal des Debats in their influence upon European politics. During the recent war the articles of the latter paper were telegraphed and discussed in every European capital, and if any decision shall be arrived at by the present congress at Berlin, it will no doubt be influenced and shaped by those writers who wield a weapon more powerful than the sword for the the columns of the Debats. The organ of M. Gambetta is the Republique Francaise; but there are many other journals of pretty much the same shade. The Radical organs are the Bien Public, the Rappel, the Marseillaise and a number of other journals that soon succumb to the censorship of the government, through the fines imposed for seditious language. The paper which is read most by the stranger who comes to Paris to see life, to enjoy himself, and who wants to know what is going on in society, whether high or half toned, who is interested in literary novelties, and in the sayings and doings of the world that lives in the cafes, is undoubtedly the Figaro. I have mentioned, above, only few of the leading papers that are to be found at the kiosks. Papers here are usually sold in little news stands that look like sentry boxes. The yell of the news boy is seldom heard, except about the gates of the Exposition. when the jaded visitor comes out in the afternoon; and then the news-boy here is a man or woman, not a boy as on our side the Atlantic. Boys appear to be very scarce in France. The gamin so graphically described by Victor Hngo no longer swarms in the Faubourgs. Statistics tell us that the population of France is decreasing, and the scarcity of young children in this country is so marked that Americans seldom omit to speak of it with surprise. Few families here have more than two children, which is perhaps double the usual number, and many families have no children. I have met but one family in France who had five. As the father mentioned the number he evidently expected me to be overwhelmed with surprise, and as it seemed that he had done comparatively well. I did not wound his vanity by telling him that twice that number was not uncommon for the teeming shores of the new world. The effect of this condition of things on the future military strength of France, it is not difficult to foretell. The populations of other European powers are slowly, but, steadily in-

# JULY 20

D

tr an an fis av vo ris Fr bu tal om na fr bu tal om na l pes ern the can ric. lips spit is p fete no l the gloi

-----

P

pota the 1

eater

Mille

with

imita

in th

again

To

DI WES then son o town cisive those clear

quali life.

in la

Low

the

and a

 $\mathbf{H}\epsilon$ 

Chur

some

this

Yout

contr

of V

sugge

of an

in his

had

The j

in cl

erous

dist (

ary S

berea

sorro

L. L.

misse friend

Tha

heaver

Cha

Ver

Pe

#### OUR YOUNG TRADERS-CAUTION.

We are on the dividing line between ears of business prostration and years of business prosperity. At least we hope so. And this may be a fitting time for offering a few words of advice the human heart; while looking well to to young men of business. It will at least have the merit-this bit of counmen, we shall hold even the smiles of sel-of being well-meant and wellthe world but as dross compared with founded, inasmuch as it comes from a good conscience, God's approval, and, one who has closely observed the strug-

THE Methodist Episcopal Church has been giving to missions only about 20 to 25 cents per member. Here is one secret of the drawback.

Rev. J. T. Gracey says he has been at the pains to go through the General Minutes for 1877, to see how fully the disciplinary plan was worked last year on the subject of missions. He declares that the result shows that about fifteen hun dred of our churches took no collections in the congregations for the missionary cause, and about five thousand of the Sunday schools contributed nothing, while over one thousand charges gave not a cent in any way for this cause.

On the other hand, we venture to say that not one hundred charges were permitted to withhold their ten per cent. from the support of presiding elders. We lispense with the elders and give the noney to missions. It makes a great difference in the aggregate results.

OUR New Brunswick Reporter has, as will be seen by this issue, completed his work. He and the Reporter for the Nova Scotia Conference have so diligently and faithfully caught the spirit of a very important years findings and debates, that, we are sure, our readers will join us in hanking them. The Newfoundland Conference seems to have been reported only n part; but no further record of their ransactions has yet reached us, nor has the copy of their minutes ever come to hand. A but imperfect and disconnected sketch of proceedings in that Conference, has therefore, as yet appeared in our columns. We may yet find time to afford a resume of the more important conclusions reached by the three Maritime Conferences.

THERE is soon to be an election-a double election in many places. We have no political creed, nor have we permission to give any political advice. Doubtles politics will, in the issue, take care of hemselves. But we have a duty to perform in the interests of morality. We say then that no immoral man has a right to be a politician-this country cannot afford it; and no Christian should lend his vote or voice toward placing in a position

MONTREAL escaped mercifully on the 12th. There were indications of trouble at times during the day, but, as the Orangemen refrained from forming in procession, no general attack was made in any part of the city. There were, besides policemen and special constables. 3,000 troops under arms, so that mob vioence would have ended in bloody work. As it was, with the exception that the Orange fraternity were kept confined in their Hall for several hours, through dread of appearing on the streets, and one or two accidents and fights ensued, resulting in the death of a citizen, all passed off quietly.

THE CAMP MEETING will take place at Berwick, in August, when a number of ministers and friends are expected to take part in the services. Due notice will be given as to exact time and arrangements.

#### PERSONALS.

PROFESSOR JOHN ALLISON, for years Principal of the Sackville Ladies' Academy, is on a visit to the Provinces. He preached and lectured in St. John on his way to Nova Scotia.

JEFF DAVIS has been showing himself after a seclusion of several years. He recently delivered an oration at Mississippi city, during which he gave clear manifestation of a spirit unsubdued. It says much for the forbearance of the American people, and the lenity of their government, that a conquered ex-President has his freedom, especially a freedom which permits public utterance on national questions. Half a century ago he would have been banished. A century ago he would have been hanged unceremoniously. The world makes headway.

JOHN F. MUNCEY, Esq., and lady celebrated last week for the fiftieth time, the anniversary of their wedding. They have been for some years residents of Halifax. Previously they spent some time in Charlottetown. In both places they have hosts of friends who will congratulate them heartily.

WE have to present our congratulations to three new Doctors of Divinity. The where he can injure this country, a man | Rev. George Young, ex-President of the

