

THE WESLEYAN.

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1878.

A YEAR'S MINISTERIAL HAPPINESS;—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.

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.

Of all professions, that of the ministry should be most free from selfishness. It is the very type of all that is noble, self-sacrificing and pure.

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.

"The power of aiding honest men should be itself a heaven of pleasure," sang honest Hugh Miller. The apostle used a different phrase—"Whether we live, we live unto the Lord."

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.

a successful ministry. To go no higher 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.

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.

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It is in view of this aspect of the matter that our brethren in the ministry cheerfully resign themselves to all the tossings and commotion of the itinerant wheel. Like the devotees of Juggernaut who religiously cast themselves beneath the wheels of the ponderous car to be crushed in sacrifice to their god, many memories, and many hopes, and many affections, are annually crushed beneath the wheels of our Juggernaut which we admire so much—the Methodist itinerancy.

OUR YOUNG TRADERS—CAUTION.

We are on the dividing line between years 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 to young men of business.

gles of the class referred to during the 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 instances, the victims of delusion as regards wealth and the methods of obtaining it. If it were even admitted—which 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.

Above all, both our young 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 foresee.

We advise then, that no young man should enter business for himself—trading 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 several 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.

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 hundred 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 dispense with the elders and give the money 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 thanking them.

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.

whose life is corrupt, whose example is evil, whose aims are selfish. There are no great political questions before the country that we can see. Protection, Tariff, Canada for the Canadians—these are words on which politicians may or may not lay much stress after the elections.

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 Hymnology may exist.

THE Peace Congress has at length perfected 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.

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 proceeded to duplicate degrees.

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.

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.

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.

We have to present our congratulations to three new Doctors of Divinity. The Rev. George Young, ex-President of the

Toronto Conference, has had the degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred on him by the authorities of Cornell College, Iowa. The Rev. John Potts, pastor of the Elm-street Church, in this city, has received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the Western University, Delaware, Ohio.

OUR PARIS LETTER.

SOMETHING ABOUT FRENCH NEWSPAPERS. 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.

A few days since I bought an illustrated 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.

The number of newspapers published in 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 Orleansists the Salut, the Catholics the Univers.

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 columns of the Debats.

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.