Ingersoll Chronicle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1865.

The Press Excursion.

A Toronto Daily which has hardly a single friend in the whole Provincial press—we mean, of course, the *Leader*—takes occasion to sneer at the recent meeting and excursion of the Press Association. Its chief point is an insinuation that it does not take a very high order of talent to write out and pass resolutions thanking parties who show courtesy to the Association. We can quite understand that good manners and great literary ability are different things: but we do not think it impossible for them to go together. We believe that a man, or a body of men, may have *good* breeding enough to say "thank you" to any one who shows them kindnesses, without compromising their reputation for ability. Perhaps the *Leader* thinks differently, and possibly many of its ill-natured fits are to be attributed, not so much to a natural ugliness of character, as to an anxiety on its part to produce an impression that it is too great to be under any obligation to be civil to ordinary mortals. Such a claim to greatness will not avail much in public estimation, and we should advise the *Leader*, if it is very anxious to be thought great, to endeavor to establish some better title to the character.

The object of the press excursion is not literary exercise at all. It is rather to get rid, as far as possible, of the routine work of the newspaper office for one week. It is relaxation that is sought, and as regards that end, the excursion was an entire success. By a great odds, the late meeting of the Association was the most successful yet held. The number in attendance was far in excess of the number present at any former meeting. The utmost harmony prevailed throughout, and the trip from Brockville to Arnprior, thence to Ottawa City, and thence again to Prescott, and, for a portion of the party, to Montreal, was for the distance as fine an excursion route as could be found anywhere. There was a variety in the modes of travelling and in the scenery to be enjoyed. From Brockville to Arnprior was an exceedingly pleasant railway trip. Then came a mile of the journey which had to be made on foot—then three miles by steamer—then three or four by tram railway—then twenty or so by steamer again—and then eight or nine miles by carriages. This brought the party to Ottawa—and afforded in the single day no less than five varieties of traveling. The sight-seeing at Ottawa was crowded into too short a space, perhaps. The public buildings alone cannot be thoroughly seen without spending a good deal of time, and in visiting the other points of interest about the city, both in the way of natural scenery and of manufacturing establishments, a good deal of time could be profitably spent. Throughout the whole journey the greatest good feeling prevailed, and all seemed to enjoy themselves to the utmost. We trust that those gentlemen who took part in the excursion will return to their labors on the press with renewed vigor.

We are sanguine that the Press Association will continue to prosper, and that besides affording the means of an annual meeting of its members for purposes of relaxation and enjoyment, it will constantly exercise a salutary influence upon the character of the press, by making members of the press better acquainted with each other, and by thus causing a kindlier feeling to spring up amongst them. The Association has already done good, and will do more. Next year the meeting will be held in Montreal, and the excursion will extend as far as Quebec—giving those who attend the advantage of seeing the beauties of the St. Lawrence, and the sights both of Montreal and Quebec. We are sure such an excursion will be a success.

The following is a list of the members of the Association present at the annual meeting which took place at Brockville on the 9th instant:

Thos. White, Spectator, Hamilton; C. J. Hynes, Messenger, Prescott; W. Gillespie, ex President, Hamilton; W. Nicholson, Examiner, Barrie; R. Rohaine, Review, Peterboro; David Matheson, Gazette, Quebec; J. A. Campbell, Gazette, Whitby; W. P. Cox, Huron Signal, Goderich; Alex. Graham, Examiner, Peterboro'; Henry Lawson, do. do.; Abbot, Standard, St. Marys; A. J. Beleh, Argus, St. Marys; James Somerville, Banner, Dundas; M. Bowell, Intelligencer, Belleville; Owen Vandusen, Comet, Owen Sound; Robt. Boyle, Times, Picton; E. Jackson, New Era, New Market; T. Wills, Independent, Belleville; Revd J. Climie, Statesman, Bowmanville; W. R. Climie, do. do.; D. Wilie, Recorder, Brockville; G. W. McMullin, North American, Picton; G. W. Verral, Dispatch, Strathroy; John Siddons, Prototype, London; L. Larke, Vindicator, Oshawa; W. P. Kelley, British Canadian, Simcoe; C. H. Hull, Times, Hamilton; J. H. Wood, Canadian, Sarnia; W. Buckingham, Beacon, Stratford; C. B. Robinson, Post, Lindsay; J. H. Parnell, Churchman, Kingston; J. S. Garnett, Chronicle, Ingersoll; A. McLachlan, Home Journal, St. Thomas; Jas. Laudsay, do. do.; R. McWhinnie, Sentinel, Woodstock; J. W. Gibson, Expositor, Brantford; J. K. Mason, Chronicle, Belleville; G. L. Walker, Courier, Perth; N. McNamarra, do.; H. C. Kennedy, Courier, Morrisburg; E. R. Smith, News, St. Johns, C. E.; Thos. Sellars, Echo, Montreal; W. S. Johnson, Globe, Toronto; J. P. Doyle, N. Y. Herald; T. Byrne, Telegraph, Prescott; W. H. Oliver, Cornwall; Wm. Grant, Journal, St. Catherines; Jas Seymour, Constitutional, St. Catherines; Sam'l Amsden, Independent, Dunville; R. Matheson, Canadian Quarterly, Hamilton; Geo. Laycock, New Era, Clinton; Henry Hough, World, Cobourg; T. McNaughton, Sun, Cobourg; C. S. Jones, Argus, St. Marys; F. McPherson, Telegraph, Berlin; I. King, do. do.; R. S. Birtch, Times, Woodstock; W. H. Floyd, Star, Cobourg; J. H. Bartindale, I. R. Jones, Expositor, Brantford; J. Cameron, Advertiser, London; E. R. Dewhurst, Telegraph, Welland; R. R. Sutherland, Inquirer, Ingersoll; Rev. R. Cameron, Baptist Freeman, Woodstock; Wm. Bryant, do., do.; Geo. Tye, Times, Brampton; D. McDougall, Ex President, Berlin; A. C. Tyner, Times, Hamilton; Robt. Matheson, Champion, Milton; Wm. Kennedy, Ledger, Napanee; Dr. Ardagh, Advance, Barrie.

The officers elected for the present year are as follows:—

President.—M. Bowell, Belleville *Intelligencer.*

First Vice-President.—Thos. Sellar, Montreal *Echo.*

Second Vice-President.—James Campbell, Whitby *Gazette.*

Secretary and Treasurer.—W. S. Cox, Goderich *Signal.*

Honorary Secretary.—W. Buckingham, Stratford *Beacon.*

Executive Committee.—Messrs. White Hamilton; Siddons, London; Somerville, Dundas; Nicholson, Barrie; Wylie, Brockville.

The Land Policy of Canada.

Recently there was a discussion in Parliament in reference to the policy of our country respecting the disposal of its public lands.—Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed by Western members especially at the terms upon which our public lands are offered to settlers. It was contended that we ought to offer more liberal terms in order to induce the more rapid settlement of the country. This is an idea in which we are inclined to concur. It is of vastly more consequence to the Province to have its wild lands well settled, than to get a little money for them from the hard earnings of its pioneers. True enough, we give away land in some localities, but these lands are said to be poor and rocky, and the free grants are taken up very slowly, and sometimes abandoned after they have been taken. One great difficulty is that much of the best wild lands in Canada are in the hands of speculators, who hold them at five or ten times the price paid to the government. This prevents the settlement of the country, and sometimes sends people who want lands to another country to find them. It is possibly a debateable point whether the Government might not be justified in resuming these lands on the ground that the settlement duties have not been performed but though the legal right, to do that may possibly exist, we can hardly expect it to be exercised. Our Government has too much respect for vested rights or what seems to be such, to venture upon ground at all doubtful. But there are some good lands in the hands of the Government, the price of which might wisely be reduced, and we hope to see that done.

The want which is felt of lands for settlement in Canada, is a very strong argument for the acquisition of the Northwest territory.—Though we are not of those who think that our country is falling behind the United States in the race of progress. We know the contrary. But it is the fact that some of our people go to the United States because they can suit themselves better on the prairies of the West than in the woods of Canada. Our rational course, then, is to endeavor to counteract that loss, by opening up the prairies of the Northwest in order to give our people as good inducements under our own flag as in the United States. We can thereby save to ourselves a portion of the population we now lose. The cost of opening up the Northwest will not be enormous compared with other expenditures which we have incurred for purposes of far less importance. The money required for opening up the Northwest will be small, while the advantages will be beyond the anticipations of most people, even of those friendly to the acquisition of the territory. The difficulties of the settlement of the country will be far less than the difficulties which the early settlers of Canada encountered and overcome. The prairie land is ready for cultivation at once. It is fertile and well watered, and there is no drawback to the raising of abundant crops. The Red River country is also well calculated for growing, and when we take into account the great mineral wealth of the territory, we have combined enough elements of prosperity to make the progress of the Northwest easy, certain and rapid. We should be wanting in our duty to our country, did we neglect the present opportunity of making this great addition to our territory, and of opening up so brilliant a prospect for our people. With the extension of our country both east and west, by the annexation of the Maritime Provinces (which will come in a few years at the most, we trust), and of the Northwest, we shall add vastly to our strength and importance as a people, and be in no true Canadian who interposes local or sectional objections. It is a question, in our estimation, more urgent than even Confederation. We deeply regret that a good deal of opposition to the acquisition of the Northwest is in Montreal. This is as unjust as it is short sighted on the part of our Eastern friends. The Upper Canadian people have paid millions for public works in Lower Canada—many of which are totally unproductive, and it would be scandalous if we should be refused a few hundred thousands of dollars for the Northwest and for roads in that territory. The project is not exclusively an Upper Canadian one, but one of a national character—in which Montreal has as great an interest as any part of the Province, if its people would only see their true interests. Our Montreal obstructionists are all exceedingly anxious about the enlargement of the canals. The people of Upper Canada are quite willing to support that proposition, and pay the larger share of the cost, because they believe that while specially benefitting Montreal, the enlargement of the canals would be an advantage to the whole country. But we do ask that we shall not be confined to improvements specially beneficial to Lower Canada.

The Provincial Exhibition.

Next week is the week of the Provincial Exhibition at London. Great preparations have been made for a successful show and a very large number of entries already gives promise of a splendid fair. The County of Oxford is situated so near London that our people have this year special advantages in competing. We trust that our County will make a strong turn out, and carry off a large lot of prizes. We have a fertile county and an intelligent and prosperous farming community. We have something in the way of manufactures to exhibit. It will be our own fault, therefore, if Oxford does not appear to good advantage at the coming London Exhibition.

Opening of the New Wesleyan Church.

According to announcement, the church lately erected in this town by the Wesleyan Methodists, was formally opened for Divine Worship last Sabbath. The dedication sermons were preached by the Revds. Wm. Pollard, J. Borland & J. Potts. The success which has attended the efforts of the building committee is certainly most gratifying, and reflects much credit on their persevering zeal.

The church itself is an ornament to our town, and loudly speaks of the increasing influence of the body to which it belongs. To many of the old inhabitants, the early days of Ingersoll are still familiar when this same society met in the little log school house standing nearly opposite the new Church, and when we hear the statement that now they have about two hundred in church membership in this town alone, we are not surprised that they should decrease and complete so noble an edifice as their new Church. It also speaks of the liberality in christian sentiment that other denominations have given their share, and not a few of their ministers were present to assist in the opening services, while the attendance on Sabbath was swelled by many of the kindred congregations in town.

We should fail in our obligations to our numerous patrons, as their dispenser of general interesting matter, did we not improve an opportunity like this. But before noticing more particularly the services we shall describe

THE CHURCH BUILDING.

It is situated on King Street in a most beautiful part of the town. Is built of white brick, and presents to the passer by a most attractive front and side view. The style can hardly come under any particular name but more of the circular Greecian. The windows, six on a side, are with circular tops divided by a spreading branch. A projecting pillar between each window stands out in bold relief. It is fifty feet wide by seventy five feet long—is entered by three doors opposite corresponding to three doors passing from a large lobby into the body of the Church with three corresponding aisles. On entering the lobby we turn to the right and left to ascend the stairs to the gallery which is over the out and two sides. Standing in the centre of the building and looking towards the pulpit, the view of the north end. The pulpit is of a new style, entirely of a platform, fronted by an oval breastwork crowned in the centre with the Bible, board, which is of the design, a large open Bible black cover and gilt edge, allowing the Book in use to lie just behind the apparently open one. Behind the pulpit on the wall and swung over it as a rainbow, is a large massive circle of plaster, each end resting on a large projecting support—very handsome.

This standing boldly out from the granite work of the wall presents a very fine effect to the eye. Standing in the pulpit we find the body of the church well fitted up with circular pews with two doors; the pews are capped with white oak; the ends grained to match, as is the breast work of the gallery.

Looking down the aisle we cannot fail to admire two splendid chandeliers six, burners each, with six other lamps on each side under the gallery. Those well designed and tasteful stained windows in the south end cast many shades of light over the choir's place, having a splendid effect on the occupier of the pulpit if he can be effected by soft and blending colours. Good ventilation is obtained by dropping the windows and a flue in the centre to allow an escape of foul air.

The Church is warmed by hot air from two large furnaces under the church, the plan furnished by the Pastor of the church, Rev. L. Warner.

On the whole the building is one of the most tasteful we have ever visited, and will afford ample room for an increasing congregation, capable of accomodating eight hundred, although on Sabbath over one thousand were seated without occupying the aisles.

The erection of the church was commenced last August and reflects much credit on the perseverance of the contractors and the especial care of Warren Harris, Esq., who constantly watched its progress, being assisted by the Rev. L. Warner, when ever needed.

The Masonry was done by Mr Scraeton, of London; the wood work by our townsman Mr H. Goble; the plastering by Mr John McHenry; the painting by Mr A. Snellgrove. All have shown by their workmenship on the church that they well understand their business.

THE MORNING SERVICES.

were conducted by the Rev. W. Pollard, chairman of the Toronto District.

The honor of preaching the first sermon could not have been awarded to a more worthy minister, or to one who would have given a more useful and practical sermon. Were this a type of the sermons that will be heard from that pulpit the congregation will be a highly favoured one indeed. At half-past ten he commenced the services by announcing the 540 Hymn—

Before Jehovah's awful throne,
Ye nations bow with sacred joy;
Know that the Lord is God alone,
He can create, and he destroy.

Which was sung with good effect by the congregation following the choir led by Mr J. Fletcher. The choir was assisted by a large cabinet organ purchased of Andrus Bros, London, at which Miss Schell presided with much taste after prayer the choir sung for an anthem. "In the last day."

Rev. L. Warner then read for the lessons I Kings, VIII, and LXXXIV Psalm.

The Hymn commencing "Great God attend while Zion Sings," and was sung, after which the Rev. Mr Pollard announced his text chosen from II. Cor. v. 17, 18, 19.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new."

"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation."

"To wit that God was in Christ, reconceiling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation."

He said—Man in an unconverted state is unable to appreciate divine things, and hence the many erronious opinions among the world in reference to religion. In order to put the subject clearly before them he would treat it as follows. I. What is religion. II. The causes which confer to this state under the first divison. He remarked, it was not merely the act of a pagan turning from paganism to christianity, nor a reformation of outward character, nor by having the rite of baptism administered. It was called in the Bible, "giving a new heart," being "born again, converted." It was a moral resurrection and implied, I. A change of understanding. This was not a scientific knowledge, it was a knowledge of God, of Christ, of sins forgiven as giving a new state of being, an experimental knowledge in the heart rather than of the head. II. A change of feeling. The religion of the Bible was a religion of feeling. III. A change of Deportment. This is the outward manifestation which the christian gives to the world. The causes which confer to this state were, I. The mercy of God as the originating cause. II. The word of God as the instrumental cause. III. The Holy Spirit as the efficient cause. The services were closed by the Rev. Mr Baldwin announcing the 519 Hymn—

Great is the Lord our God,
And let His praises be great
He makes His churches His abode
His most delightful seat.

and closing by prayer.

THE AFTERNOON'S SERVICES

were commenced by the Rev. J. Potts. He read for his lesson the 10th chap. of the Acts of the Apostles, chosing from this chapter his text in the 44th verse—a text most appropriate for the occasion—"While he yet spake the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the Word." He began by stating the circumstances in connection with the occasion of Peter's preaching, and then giving—I. The import of the Word spoken: II. The Divine illustration of the Word: III. The practical references this subject is legitimately intended to suggest. He commenced by the enunciation of a great principle which was, "The impartiality and justice of God." The Holy Ghost fell on *all* that heard the Word spoken, embraced the doctrine of peace in Christ, His Messiaship—things of which the Apostles were witnesses—His life, His death, &c. The Divine attestation to the word was by the descent of the Holy Ghost, as—I. A spirit of conviction to the preacher and also to the people: II. As a life giving and quickening spirit: III. In giving miraculous power. The practical inferences he drew were—I. The importance of an attentive and teachable congregation: II. The importance of a suitable pulpit theme—Christ the theme of Peter: III. General work by and in connection with proper means, while he yet spake: IV. In the use of similar means we may expect the same results. He stated there were two reasons why not such divine attestation now—I. Because of the unbelief and inactivity of the church ministry: II. The ungodly do not now hear this gospel as did the congregation at Cornelius. The services were closed by the Rev. Mr Blackmarr.

THE EVENING SERVICES

were conducted by the Rev. J. Boreland, Chairman of the Brantford district. He chose for his text, Eph. II., 19, 22,—"Now therefore, ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God, &c." He treated in a most satisfactory manner peculiar to himself; showing by whom the Church of God is composed—upon what formed and for what purpose erected.

The evening services were closed by the Rev. R. H. Starr, B.A., of St. Mary's.

THE DINNER.

Monday was all that could be desired for the occasion, and as early as 11 o'clock the friends from the country were seen on their way to the Town Hall, where the tables were spread with all that could be desired by the most fastidious.

The dinner passed off pleasantly, when all adjourned to the Church. Several ministers addressed the congregation.

THE TEA

was a most complete success. From the report read we find that the proceeds of the dinner and tea amounted to $360, which, with the collections on Sabbath, made the sum nearly $600. The tables were without exception the most tastefully arranged and best provided for that we have ever seen. For the public service in the evening the church was well filled. At 8 o'clock James Benson, Esq., of St. Catharines, took the chair, and ably did he perform his part. After a very suitable address he called on the Revds. G. Kennedy, F. Berry, M. Benson, M. E. J. Straith, and W. W. Carke, who soon gave way for those from a distance who were to be the speakers for the night. Before introducing the speakers for the night. Before introducing the speakers for the night. Before introducing