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scription must accompany the order. Push the canvass. S. F. HUESTIS,

Nov 15, 1881.

THE WESLEYAN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1881.

Book Steward.

Some of our agents are cheering us by their efforts in behalf of the WESLEYAN we await reports from others in relation to both renewals and new names. Let us hear at an early date, brethren.

Will our ministers or others interested in increasing our circulation let us have the names of any persons whom they believe to be both able and willing to take the paper, if it were brought before their notice. Sample copies would be promptly forwarded to any addresses thus given, if given immediately.

DEATH OF REV. ELIAS BRET-TLE.

On Saturday evening tidings of the death of this highly-esteemed minister reached this city. From the Rev. Robert McArthur, of Avondale, who was frequently with him during the last few weeks, we learn that Mr. Brettle's tedious and painful illness terminated on the evening of Friday last.

Mr. Brettle was a local presa the Grantham circuit, England, when he was called into the itinerancy in 1848, and sent by the English Conference to Newfoundland. From that colony he removed in 1862 to Nova Scotia, where, with the exception of a three years term at Sackville, the whole of his later ministry was spent. In all the circuits in which he has been stationed he is remembered as an acceptable preacher, and a faithful pastor, whose bearing in all circumstances was invariably that of the true Christian gentleman. The affectionate respect of his brother ministers was shown by their frequent choice of him as Chairman, and their election of him as Co-Delegate of the Conference of Eastern British America in 1873 and as President of the Nova Scotia Conference

Had Mr. Brettle been open to the charge, often levelled most unjustly against the Chairmen of Districts, of seeking his own pleasure in the choice of a circuit, his service might have to all those having colleges. The position been more extended. Soon after his of his Lordship the Bishop on that point arrival at Newport in 1878, his brethren said that he had undertaken more than he could accomplish. In the autumn of that year he was seized by a disease which never relaxed its holds. At the Conference of 1879 he reluctantly took a supernumerary position, and sought a quiet home at Newport, where he enjoyed the frequent visits of the pastors of the neighboring circuits, and of the Rev. John McMurray, of Windsor, who, when health would permit, often drove over to cheer him, and to assist him in any necessary business.

The sudden death of Mrs. Brettle, a few months ago, though borne by her husband in a spirit of Christian resignaready enfeebled frame. For some time his brethren have marked his decline and predicted early departure. On Tuesday of last week Messrs. McMurray, Pickles and McArthur, and a few commemorated the dying love of the Redeemer. In spite of "pain and fee-

interviews that minister writes: "He knew meand gave me his blessing. Quite distinctly he said, 'My feet are on the Rock,' and then, evidently repeating that or similar sentiments, he retired, as it were, into closer communion with the spirit world. I have been with him a great deal during the past few weeks, and can bear testimony to the calm resignation, uncomplaining patience bore his affliction. His unwavering faith in the merits of the atonement and his ardent love to God were so beautifully exemplified as to prove an inspiration to all who came within the circle of his influence.'

THE COLLEGE QUESTION.

Time is throwing light upon the secret policy of certain advocates of university consolidation. This policy, if it can be judged from the correspondence now going on, is precisely that which a few months ago we foreshadowed, to the evident disgust of some. The public are now learning that the sums withdrawn last winter from the several Protestant colleges are in danger of being bestowed upon one, while the "religious endowment" against which such a bitter outcry was then raised is to be continued to one religious body-the very one which will use it in a way calculated solely to advance its own purposes. As a result, the direct religious teaching of Protestant students, so far as Government aid is concerned, would be impracticable, while Romanism, aided by help from the public chest, would be doing her utmost to spread her peculiar views. Such is the price which some of the advocates of consolidation are willing to pay to break down several colleges that they may build up one

We are not inclined to charge this purpose upon all those who have expressed themselves in favor of a union of colleges. We have heard men, whose names have been somewhat freely used this week, declare such a union an impossibility in our day, and they, we are confident, would never be parties to its accomplishment at so great a cost. The unfairness of the proposed arrangement, which would give to one religious body what is withheld from all others. has been well shown by Bishop Binney. On this subject the Chronicle, while almitting the force of much that is said in favor of "consolidation," makes the following remarks, some of which we readily endorse:

But when they propose as a means of surmounting a difficulty, the giving of grants to one religious body for the support of avowedly denominational institutions, while all other denominations are to be denied that favor, they weaken, if they do not wholly destroy. their case. The argument for grants to denominational colleges, if not very sound, has some force, because a large portion of our people conscientiously believe that higher educational work should be combined with religious work. But an argument in favor of giving grants to one denomination while denying them to all others cannot be sustained. Those opposed to denominational grants have in the past submitted to the system as a compromise in which an effort was made to treat all denominations alike. They held that this system was wrong, but saw that there was at least an appearance of fairness in the application of it. That pearance would be destroyed, and all ments of compromise lost, if grants were given to one denomination and refused to others. The consolidation movement has undoubtedly received an impulse through the withdrawal of grants. If the colleges are let alone they may be able to quietly settle this vexed question in a year or two. But there is to be a revival of the system of denominational grants it must apply is impregnable.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

The Salvation Army is doing a noble work in England, and is steadily advancng in the estimation of the active Evangelical workers of that country. Its military and other titles, and some of its sacred songs catch in the throats of some good men, but unimpeachable testimony proves the value of its work among a class whom the churches have failed to reach. Nearly 50,000 people now attend its services, and a half million of dollars flowed into its treasury last year. Its reports of work in the tion, doubtless gare a shock to an al- highways and hedges read like some

parts of John Wesley's earlier journals. The Wesleyans of England, to their credit, are not at all slow in the recognition of those whom some might class among their "poor relations." The others met at his home and together Army is now aiming at more thorough organization. Its leaders have an opportunity of purchasing the London bleness extreme, he entered heartily Orphan Asylum at £15,000,—a quarter into the service and seemed to exult in | of its original cost,-and have announcthe nearness of his Lord. Two or three ed their intention, in case they can

Congress Hall for five thousand people, with tent, and other accommodation for eight thousand more. In this emergency the leading men of Methodism have published an earnest appeal in their behalf, over the signature of George Osborn, Jas. H. Rigg, Benj. Gregory, E. E. Jenkins, John Kilner, G. W. Olver. W. F. Moulton, T. B. Stephenson, Wm. Arthur, and Alex. McAulay, among the ministry; and such men as S. D. Waddy, James Duncan, Wm. McArthur, T. Percival Bunting and others, among the laity. They say :-

We, the undersigned, regarding the Salvation Army as a valuable auxiliary to the Methodist and other Churches in spreading spiritual truth and holiness through these lands, and, in view of the opportunity afforded by the Clapton Training Institution scheme, set forth in the enclosed circular, desire substantially to express our sympathy with the

While some may pass by this Army with open or ill-disguised contempt, and while others may even give it the which our own fathers had, in their day, to overcome, we cannot hesitate to give these, our buffeted fellow-workers for Christ, a warm and practical sup-

There may be, and in point of fact there are, serious differences of opinion as to some of the means employed by the Salvation Army, and as to the ultimate results of its labors; but, if from this Clapton Institution there go forth, within the next five years, a thousand young men and women, such as the Salvation Army officers have proved themselves to be, what further consid eration does this matter require? Let us testify that unhesitating and immediate sympathy which the circumstances

N.B.-You can help us greatly by arranging for a meeting in your chapel, or more privately amongst your people if preferred, and we will send to any meeting so arranged some representative well able to describe the Salvation Army and perfect salvation.

It is evident from reports in our English exchanges that British Methodism is not at all disposed to transfer energetic work to any other body. Many of its ministers and laity are throwing themselves most heartily into soul-saving work, and with great success.

TEMPTATION,

Temptations abound everywhere. They come in peculiar forms to youth, middle age and old age. Under the presence of these influences the pew sometimes envies the pulpit and the pulpit looks upon the occupant of the pew with a feeling akin to envy. The Christian shall only leave them behind when he "enters heaven by prayer." know all he can of their peculiar shape pastors; gladly would we encour-

A late number of the Christian Advocate describes one of that class of temptations which knocks at the pastor's study door-sometimes to be invited to a seat in the pastor's chair, sometimes to be dismissed in no courtly phrase. It will be remembered that what is true of the excellent paper named is also true of the Wesleyan :-

A canvassing agent for a religious weekly called on a young minister of our Church and said : "I wish to arrange for a thorough canvass of your society. If you will do it I am authorized to allow you \$1 for each subscri-"We have our own paper, and I am in honor bound to present its claims. I should consider it wrong to advocate another paper." "You are a little more conscientious than Mr. naming another minister; "he made \$35, and only two or three kept the regular paper." "My salary is small enough, but I am not down so low as to turn my back on my own Church. "Well, if you won't canvass yourself. if you will commend the paper from the pulpit and give me a list of names, I will pay you fifty cents for every subscriber I get among the people. can't do it; but I will tell the people next Sunday about your propositions, and recommend them on no account to take a paper that tries to get a circulation by inducing ministers on small salaries to sell out the interests of their Church. Besides I will tell them that our own paper is worth more to them than any other can be.

The above conversation is reported as it occurred. Another instance of which we have heard is that of offering a Church in debt \$25 toward the debt if twenty-five subscribers could be obtained for the paper. If The Christian Advocate were a private enterprise we might fight that kind of fire with fire ; but as it is the organ of the Church and every dollar of its profits belongs to the Church, and as its editor is simply paid a salary as a servant of the Church, we rely on every Methodist minister to make a faithful canvass of his people; and we warn all that every effort is made to run in periodicals either not specially in the interests of Methodism or hostile to it.

The Book Steward states that orders for the new Hymn-book will be filled at the earliest date possible. At present the supply is not equal to the demand. stood near him. Of that and previous Home for four hundred officers, and a ed during the present week!

spect ourselves if we would have respect us." Some years ago the Secretary of the English Home Missions, in reply to a communication from Bermuda on the subject of a Government allowance to Methodist chaplains, wrote in short metre: "We have never taken anything from the Government for this work, and we never will." His successors have taken a different view of the matter. A few months since, the Government, in accordance with a request from the Methodist authorities, made financial provision for the services of Methodist chaplains. Now it has gone a step further and shown its respect for the Methodist Church by a "General Order' which appeared last month. "General Order, 130-Books.-It having been decided to issue in future to recruits who are Weslevans a denominational same bitter enmity and opposition Hymn-book instead of the Church of England Prayer-book with hymns as heretofore, commanding officers, will. on requisition, be furnished with the necessary supply." In communicating this fact to the Methodist Recorder, Rev. R. W. Allen, of Woolwich, remarks: "It is cheering to know that henceforth every Methodist soldier will have, as a part of his kit, a copy of that Hymn-book which in distant lands, and amidst many perils and temptations. will, perhaps more than anything else, serve to recall the sacred memories of his godly home and Sabbath-school."

In a Provincial exchange a minister and his wife, over their own names, call attention to the fact that "some six years ago, in some way" a worthy couple "learned that preachers were fond of cheese," and that "since that time of the month, either October or November, of each year," a "nice cheese" has been sent, for which they tender their thanks through the editor of the aforesaid paper. We had clipped out some choice bits of a similar kind for review, but they have, perhaps for shame's sake, passed beyond our reach. It matters not; this case excels them all. Is it really necessary that a man should abjure his manhood in order to be a minister? It is such acknowledgments as these that go far towards placing ministers in the ranks of "upper pauperdom," adding wrinkles to the brow of high spirited men who endure all things for Jesus' sake, and tempting youth of refined feelings to turn aside from a path towards which duty points Till then he must trample them under them. We have no disposition to al in its tendency. foot with power imparted from above. check the outflow of kindness on In view of this he is wise who seeks to the part of the people toward their age it, but we ask if these public acknowledgements, generally expressed in superlatives, might not in a great measure be dispensed with. A few more acknowledgments of "nice cheese" will help to cure the evil. The brother who received the cheese is not in the list of the Methodist brotherhood: may he and they receive many-quietly.

> It is scarcely worth while to indulge in any homily upon the late Vienna catastrophe. One might be reminded that similar scenes have taken place in churches, -as for instance at Santiago a few vears since. Yet thoughtful men and women will put to themselves the question which James Hervey once put to a lady with whom he was travelling in a stage-coach: " Would you like to die in a theatre." In her case it resulted in a salvation which repressed all further desire for the theatre; the same question would work the same fortunate change in some members of Christian Churches who find their way to such places, if they would only weigh it as they do their daily business at home or abroad. This sad tragedy, the first reports of which told but a part of the truth, should stimulate all who have the care of large masses of people to the exercise of a degree of care seldom shown. In this case the carelessness of an attendant and the lack of proper means of exit have caused several hundreds of men, women and children to be trampled down and destroyed, to say nothing of the thousands who have, in all probability, been left to the world's cold

A reporter of the Evening Mail has been visiting the South Brunswick St. Mission Church. At a "staff-meeting" of the workers twenty-five or thirty ladies and gentlemen were present, ten or twelve being unable to attend. "Most of this number," he remarks, "are persons of culture and position, and all bear unmistakable appearance good of those among whom they labor. Neither are they volunteers of to-day, hours before death, Mr. McArthur again gather £20,000, to fit it up as a Training Three thousand copies have been order- but persons who for months, and in many cases years, have been so engaged,

Here is another proof of the truth and are therefore well qualified for the is the man, this is the kind of infidel of the remark that "we must re- work." The result of their efforts in who is most sure to be a propagandist. open-air and in-door meetings and house-to-house visitation has been that "a number of those who have not for years attended any place of worship the responsibility they assume in assailhave fellowed the crowd inside, and the missionary reports a number of such who have started in a fresh course and are leading a new life.

> At the entrance upon a new year special religious services will be the order of the day in many circuits. Take care, brethren, to have a pure aim. To lead men into the Church is one thing : to lead them to Christ, one drop of whose blood can make the mountain of their sin flow down and disappear, is quite another. Look forward, as did Rutherford, whose "heaven would be two heavens in Immanuel's Land," if but "one soul from Anwoth" should meet him there. Rejoice only over saved souls. "Nothing," said David Livingstone, writing from his mission station at Kolobeng, "will induce me to form an impure church." Fifty added to the Church sounds large at home, but if only five of these are genuine what will it profit in the great day? I have felt more than ever lately that the great object of our exertions ought

A few days ago Rev. Dr. Murray (Presbyterian) and Rev D. G. McDonald (Baptist) arrived at North Sydney from Prince Edward Island for the purpose of holding a public discussion on the subject of baptism-a somewhat remarkable errand. One is not surprised at being told by the North Sydney Herald that "as a result of the discussion now going on, every idiot in town, and they are not a few, discusses theology and imagines he knows more about the subject than any person else." The public discussion takes place under the auspices of the Presbyterian and Baptist congre-

The Recording Steward of the Halifax North circuit, by direction of the Official Board, requests the publication of the following extract from the Minutes of the Quarterly meeting, held on the 13th inst.:

Resolved, That this Board regret that certain parties are offering for sale in this city lottery tickets, by which the site of the old Masonic Hall, and other things, are offered as prizes to be drawn for, and they trust the members of our Churches in this circuit will not in any way countenance this proceeding, which in the judgment of this Board is immor-

A subscriber writes from Mount Stewart, P. E. Island, complaining of the late date at which the WESLEYAN reaches him. We cannot explain the cause. The papers for the Island are all mailed together, and at the same time as those for the circuits on the mainland. No delay, we think, takes place in the Post Office here; but we cannot trace the parcels further.

HOW MEN BECOME INFIDELS.

The St. Croix Courier publishes in full a timely sermon recently preached at St. Stephen by the Rev. Howard Sprague, on "The Infidel's Mission." We fear that too many, from sad experience, might corroborate his statements as to the way in which infidels are prepared for their terrible mission. Sprague thoughtfully says :

cere and earnest unbeliever. doubt may be honest, and denial sincere, and sometimes are, may be admitted, and such doubt is worthy of respect. But it must be remembered that no doubt is honest that does not spring from a paramount desire to know the How far he has such a desire, a man's own conscience must tell him in every case; but it is very possible he may deceive himself just here. Men do persuade themselves they are seeking truth, when they have made up their minds to find proof for some particular view which they wish to believe. Many a man becomes an infidel in this way. He reads no books of Christian evidence -he eagerly devours the works of infidels. Butler's 'Analogy' may be too argumentative for him, but he can understand Paine's 'Age of Reason.' The lectures of the Christian Evidence Society would be uninteresting to him, but Ingersoll's lectures are after his own | colder lands. Our family have all passheart. He gathers about him a library ed through a form of illness which for the investigation of the subject. It is true the books are all on one side, but | vated colds and their incidental stages there are plenty of them. He goes through them one by one, and flatters himself during the process that he is a seeker of the truth. A cynic philosopher went out with a candle in the day tendency to perspiration; for though time and said he was looking for a man. This philosopher goes down into a coal mine and says he is looking for the are amazing capacities for "drafts

And it is after having in this way become an infidel, and with such earnest- the mosquitoes, are the principal anof being thoroughly in earnest for the ness as may naturally be associated with such a course as this, that he feels himself authorized and impelled to assail the faith of others and destroy the most precious consolations and the most glo- robbery but profuse in thanksgiving

Others who have been more earnest, who have exercised patient thought and felt the awful greatness of the issues involved, are likely to feel how serious is ing the faith of others, and pause. But fools rush in where wise men fear to

LETTER FROM BERMUDA.

In fulfilment of a promise to others as well as to you, Mr. Editor, I write this letter, even though a little in advance of one or two events of extraordinary interest to our cause in these Islands. Contrary to our own expectation—an expectation quite in harmony with the general notion here and elsewhere there is much to be said that is new as regards Bermuda and Bermuda Methodism. Almost anything here can bear repeating to strangers. To dwellers in the extreme North there is both poetry and romance in such a description as even a very tame writer can give of Bermuda at this season of the year. So that I may as well begin with

THE CLIMATE, ETC.

Imagine how very grateful to one who ad really enjoyed no summer for twelve mouths or more must be this luxury of a southern November. Leaving home in July last, before warm weather had fairly set in, we found the thermometer at 45° on the ocean, both going and returning, while we were obliged to dress, in Scotland particularly, as for a mild wi ter in North America. When we reached Halifax in October the snow was flying and the wind for some time perfectly withering to all delicate things in nature. We board the Alpha, and in twenty-four hours we see men pattering about the decks barefooted. So much for the Gulf Stream. We enter St. George's-that most picturesque landscape that ever met human eyes, calling again every one to observe-while the soft, warm rays of an evening sun are still remain-Thence to Hamilton, with our kind, faithful Recording Steward escorting, in a moonlight drive which made everything seem to our wondering family like fairy-land. We found the brethren all well and doing admira-

Ministerial receptions are much the same wherever the grace of God and true Christian refinement have done their work. Ours was all that we could desire. Few hours pass that do not bring to light some new evidence of loving, thoughtful preparation for the pastor's family. The old pars nage, which has sheltered so many good men, women and children, had been abandoned to go with the old church into a remunerative market, and a new building, in the vicinity of the church now being completed, was rented, fitted up in excellent style, and lighted up with a blaze of welcome. There you have Now for the climate. The thermom-

eter has scarcely varied two degrees

either way, from 70° night or day

since our arrival. We sit out in the mellow moonlight without danger, from the dew. We sleep inside of open lattice-work, for doors and windows are usually well opened. A morning walk takes you out into the strangest scenery, - flat-roofed, sand-stone houses, perfectly white to the roof-tops; tropical trees and plants and birds all around you; as for flowers, they just take their own sweet will, wherever a seed falls or a root is buried. Cacti are spreading themselves in prickly luxuri ance over old walls and under old fences. Oleanders are high as the houses, a perfect nuisance, gay and odoriferous as they may be, for Bermuda has paid dearly in introducing this audacious ornament. It multiplies and spreads, till it threatens to follow the example of the camel in the fable, - once in, it bids the inhabitants go out, if they find themselves incommoded. Geraniumsthat universal favorite of flowers, which gives more variety of colors for very little attention—are all over the skirts of gardens and plantations like a fringing of many-shaded crimson. Occasionally you see a convolvulous fasten-I have no word to say against the sin-, ing itself on a tall cedar, twining itself so completely about the trunk and branches that the poor cedar becomes only a support for its more pretentious though less vigorous neighbor. But there is much of that in this poor world, up among the physical and religious conditions of humanity, as well as down in the regions of plants and animals-some people just existing for the privilege of holding up other people that wish to display themselves. Yea!

It may as well be confessed that all this excellency of climate has its drawbacks. There is a variety of opinions as to whether strangers coming here must of necessity pass through some acclimatizing process. But of all I have conversed with who came hither like ourselves, few have escaped what is called the Bermuda fever. There is nothing very terrifying in the sickness. -not much more than many suffer in the transit from season to season in seemed much the counterpart of aggraof heat, perspiration and weakness. Really one requires to begin with several suits of clothing as guards against a subtle dampness and a most bewitching there may be but slight change in the temperature of the atmosphere, there and consequent rapid reductions of the heat of the body. These, with noyances. The latter are the meanest specimens of insect nature in existence. Our own mosquitoes are generally robust and honest, skilful in rious hopes of the children of men. This afterward. Our blackflies will stand to

be slaughter compensatio muda musqu delighting ing a power ble; he retu spoil, leaving poison and there as joy of it, that is

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