

THE WESLEYAN DAILY RECORDER.

CONFERENCE OF 1869.

No. 7.]

TORONTO, ONTARIO, THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 3, 1869.

[Vol. I.]

Pactry.

YOUR HOUSE.

Be true to yourself at the start young man,
Be true to yourself and God;
Ere you build your house mark well the spot,
Let the props be strong and the roof be high,
On the sand or the shaking sod.
Dig, dig the foundation deep young man,
Plant firm the outer wall;
Let the props be strong and the roof be high,
Like an open turret toward the sky,
Through which heaven's dews may fall.
Let this be the room of the soul, young man—
When shadows shall herald care,
A chamber with never a roof, a thatch
To hinder the light—or door or latch
To shut in the spirit's prayer!
Build slow and sure: 'tis for life young man,
A life that outlives the breath;
For who shall gain the Holy Word!
'Their works do follow them,' saith the Lord,
'Therein there is no death.'
Build deep and high, and broad, young man,
As the useful case demands;
Let your title-deeds be clear and bright,
Till you enter your claim to the Lord of Light
For the 'house not made with hands.'

RISE AND PROGRESS OF METHODISM IN TORONTO.

BY REV. JOHN CARROLL.

FIRST ARTICLE.

The original town plot of Toronto, called York at the first, was selected by Gov. Simcoe, and laid out under his direction, after his arrival in the Province in 1792, at which time he caused a military road to be made nearly due North to the lake which has ever since borne his name, Lake Simcoe; that road is the well-known Yonge street. As the Governor preferred the seat of government to be further from the frontier than Newark, (Niagara) where the first parliaments were held, he removed his residence and the Legislature to York in 1796, which was then considered sufficiently advanced to receive them.

During the Methodist Conference year 1801-2, there was a Circuit denominated the "Bay Quinte and Home District," which latter term, of course, included York and the country around it. Whether the itinerants ever then preached in the village, which was at that time so wild as to be called "Rogues' Harbor," or not, we have not the means of knowing, they must have passed through it in their fortnightly rounds. The preachers appointed to this Circuit were the Rev. Joseph Sawyer, Peter Vannest, and Nathan Bangs, the last of whom speaks of very interesting labors in the Yonge street settlements as high up as Newmarket, though he says nothing concerning the town itself. The next year, Bangs and Vannest labored on the same ground. In 1804-5, the "Home District" became a circuit by itself, to which the Rev. William Anson was appointed. In 1805-6, the name was changed to "Yonge Street," and the Rev. Daniel Fickett was the preacher. He continued through the year 1806-7. He was succeeded by the Rev. Andrew Prindle in 1807-8, and he by Rev. Robert Perry in 1808-9. In 1809-10, the Rev. John Reynolds succeeded to this circuit, and, in after years often spoke to the writer of his labors and experiences in the Yonge street settlement, but made no mention of any interest in the town at its southern extremity. But his successor, the Rev. Joseph Lockwood, who was there during the year 1810-11, we are quite sure informed us, that he sometimes preached in the town, we think at Dr. Stoyles's, and that he was often entertained by a branch of the Detlor family, (German Irish) from Bay of Quinte, whom we know remained there through the war of twelve. Towards the latter part of this year, Mr. Lockwood located and taught a school in the town several months. The Rev. Andrew Prindle was re-appointed in 1811-12. The Conference of 1812, on the eve of the war, appointed to the Yonge street circuit, the Rev. Joseph Gatchel, who desisted from the work before the war was over. Then succeeded three years constituting a sort of non-historic period, during which the printed Minutes make no references to Canada; but, though we know that Messrs. Rhodes, Culp, Harmon, and Elder Ryan, labored in the region around, we are quite sure that they were little known in "Little York," as some who resided there during the most of that time, never heard of a Methodist preacher in the town till the war was over.

Yonge street resumed its place in the Minutes at the Conference held at Lyons, N. Y. June 20th, 1816-17. The preacher's name was not printed in the Minutes. It is possible that the presiding Elder's supply for it was the noted James Jackson, inasmuch as we learn from the journals of the Genesee Conference that he was recommended by the quarterly Conference of that circuit to become a travelling preacher at the end of that year.

In 1817-18, Yonge street Circuit had the Rev. David Culp for its minister. Duffin's Creek gave name to a new circuit, to which the Rev. James Jackson was appointed. Whether they travelled in concert over the whole ground embraced in the two circuits or not, it is morally certain that they began between them, to supply the town of York with preaching. Their chapel was sometimes a little unoccupied house on the north side of King street, about one third of the way from Bay

street. One Sunday afternoon, the itinerant horse, which was tied to the fence while his master was holding forth within, was plastered with filth, along with the saddle, by some vulgar youngsters. This was the worst opposition we ever knew them to have encountered. During this memorable year, funds were collected throughout the Province by Elder Ryan, and the frame of the first meeting house was erected before the Conference year was ended. It stood mid-way between Bay and Yonge street on the South side of King street. It was a very plain, unpretending structure only about 40 by 30 feet square.

In the Conference year, 1818-19, York was made the head of a new Circuit, and the Rev. David Culp was appointed to its charge. But we have every reason to believe that Messrs. Jackson and Rundle, who were appointed to Yonge Street Circuit, also assisted to supply the York pulpit, Mr. Jackson preached the second Sermon. Under that sermon, Mr. Wm. P. Patrick was converted, who became the first leader of the first class.

The newly formed class in connection with this chapel was found to consist in the beginning of December 1818, of six members Mr. and Mrs. Patrick, Mr. and Mrs. James Lever, Mr. James Hunter, and probably Dr. Stoyles. On the 5th of the month Mr. and Mrs. Doel, arrived from England, via Philadelphia, and gave in their certificates, making eight. Two of Mrs. Patrick's sisters, a Miss Gilbert and Mrs. Dr. Morrison, became members soon after as did Mrs. Mary Carroll, who found peace after several years of religious melancholy, while a hymn was being sung. Among the members at an early day were "Father Starks," as he was called, an American, who owned a Saw-mill on the "Blue-Hill Creek," in the woods, east of where Yorkville now stands; Mr. Hastings on the Danforth road, two miles east of the town, and Messrs. Magin and Pilkey, the latter a convert from French Roman Catholicism, who came to class on week nights, eight miles or more out of the woods of Scarborough. Nor must I forget Mr. Thos. D. Morrison, who was then a clerk in a government office, and afterwards a highly respected physician in the city, who became a leader in after years.

York continued the next conference year, 1819-20, a station by itself, and the Rev. Samuel Belton was the preacher at the wooden church. The society received an augmentation by the arrival of some devoted Irish Methodists, via New York, such as the Crawfords and others. Their meeting was very demonstrative and powerful; but, before the year was out a British Missionary, the Rev. Henry Pope, arrived, and several of the first formed Society, who were Europeans, drew off and joined him, while other old country people of Methodist propensities were gathered up by Mr. P., and some new ones joined. But while his numbers increased, Mr. Belton's decreased. The real augmentation of Methodism under the two several sorts of preachers was only eight. No very great recommendation of the doctrine of those who plead for the divisions in our common cause!

This state of things existed at the commencement of 1820-21. Mr. Pope continued as the appointee of the British Conference. His preaching place was the Masonic Lodge room, over a public school in a narrow street, now called Market Lane. The arrangement which took place between the American General Conference which sat at Baltimore, in the month of May, 1820, and that of the British Conference which followed in the month of July following, took Mr. Pope away about the close of that year; and the whole ground was left to the Rev. Fitch Reed, who had been appointed by the Genesee Conference, which sat at Lundy's Lane, in the month of June 1820. We shall reserve an account of Mr. Reed's labors who continued two years, for a second article.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

During the past week the Directors of the Wesleyan Sunday School Union have held several meetings, in which various matters pertaining to the work of the Union were discussed. Amongst other things the Constitution of the Union passed under careful review, and the Directors decided to recommend several important alterations and amendments. These amendments will be submitted to the annual meeting this evening, and afterwards to the Conference for their consideration. In order that members of Conference and others may have an opportunity of knowing the nature of the proposed changes before being called to vote upon them, we publish them below. We first give the Constitution as it now stands in the Minutes, and then with the proposed amendments.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCH IN CANADA AS IT NOW STANDS IN THE MINUTES.

ARTICLE I.

The title of this Association shall be "THE SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA."

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Society shall be to promote the cause of Sabbath Schools in connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Church; and thus by a careful religious training of those who may be brought within

its influence, seek to advance the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom in the earth.

ARTICLE III.

The payment of fifty cents annually shall constitute a member; and the payment of ten dollars at one time a member for life; and the payment of twenty-five dollars at one time shall constitute a Director for life. Provided that no person shall exercise the functions of a Director who is not a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

ARTICLE IV.

In order to effectually carry out the object of this Society, each District shall constitute a Branch of the Union, and shall hold its Anniversary on the evening of the first day of the May District Meeting. The District Committee shall consist of the Ministers and Preachers, Directors and Life Members, and one lay Representative from each Sabbath School within the boundaries of the District, and shall be entitled to elect its own Chairman and Secretary, and one Director of the Association, in addition to any Life Directors within the bounds of the District.

ARTICLE V.

In order to promote the objects of this Association, it is recommended that a collection for Sunday School purposes shall be made once a year at each Sunday School in the several Circuits or Missions, and all funds so collected shall be sent to the Financial Secretary for the District, by whom the same shall be transmitted to the General Treasurer. This Collection shall be made in the month of October.

ARTICLE VI.

The Board of Management shall consist of a President, (who shall be President of the Conference for the time being), five Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, the Life Directors, and the Directors elected by the District Branch Societies. At all meetings of the Board, ten members shall form a quorum.

ARTICLE VII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held at the time and place of the meeting of Conference, and on the second evening of the session of that body, when practicable, when the Secretary shall submit the Annual Report of the Board, and the Treasurer exhibit a certified statement of the accounts; and the election of officers for the ensuing year take place.

ARTICLE VIII.

No alteration of, or addition to, this Constitution shall be valid until the same has passed the Annual Meeting, and received the sanction of the Conference.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCH IN CANADA, WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

ARTICLE I.

The title of this Association shall be "THE WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION."

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Society shall be to promote the cause of Sabbath Schools in connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

ARTICLE III.

The payment of fifty cents annually shall constitute a member; and the payment of ten dollars at one time a member for life; and the payment of twenty-five dollars at one time shall constitute a Director for life. Provided that no person shall exercise the functions of a Director who is not a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

ARTICLE IV.

In order effectually to carry out the object of this Society, each District shall constitute a Branch of the Union, and shall hold its Anniversary on the evening of the first day of the May District Meeting. The District Branch shall consist of the Ministers and Preachers, Directors and Life Members, and one lay Representative from each Wesleyan Sabbath School, auxiliary to the Union, within the boundaries of the District, and shall be entitled to elect its own Secretary, (the Chairman of the District being Chairman ex-officio,) and one Director of the Association, in addition to any Life Directors within the bounds of the District.

ARTICLE V.

Any Wesleyan Sunday School within the bounds of the Canada Conference, may become auxiliary to the Union by adopting the disciplinary Constitution, and by paying into the general fund an annual contribution of not less than one cent for each scholar on the register of such school. All funds so raised to be sent to the Financial Secretary of the District, by whom the same shall be transmitted to the General Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI.

The Board of Management shall consist of a President (the President of the Conference for the time being), five Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, the Life Directors, the Directors elected by the District Branch Societies, five Directors to be appointed by the Conference.

ARTICLE VII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held at the time and place of the meeting of Conference, and on the second evening of the session of that body, when practicable, when the Secretary shall submit the Annual Report of the Board, and the Treasurer exhibit a certified statement of the accounts; and the election of officers for the ensuing year take place.

ARTICLE VIII.

No alteration of, or addition to, this Constitution shall be valid until the same has passed the Annual Meeting, and received the sanction of the Conference.

CONSTITUTION FOR A SINGLE SCHOOL AS IT NOW STANDS IN THE MINUTES.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called the Wesleyan Sunday School Society, auxiliary to the Sunday School Union of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Society shall be to sustain a Sabbath School at ———.

ARTICLE III.

The payment of ——— cents annually shall constitute a member; and the payment of five dollars at one time, a member for life.

ARTICLE IV.

The Committee of Management shall consist of the Officers, Teachers, and Visitors, together with the Circuit Ministers and Preachers, who shall be members ex-officio; the Superintendent of the Circuit being Chairman.

ARTICLE V.

The Officers of this Society shall be a Superintendent, (and, if deemed necessary, an Assistant Superintendent,) Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian.

ARTICLE VI.

Teachers and Visitors may be nominated by the Superintendent on their entering the School, and elected by the Committee of Management one month subsequently.

ARTICLE VII.

Regular meetings of the Committee of Management shall be held on the ——— of ——— month, for the transaction of such business as relates to the interests of the Society and School, at which the following order shall be observed:—

1. Singing and prayer; 2. Calling roll; 3. Reading Minutes; 4. Unfinished business; 5. Reports from Committees; 6. Reports from Superintendent; 7. Reports from Treasurer; 8. Reports from Librarian; 9. Reports from Visitors; 10. Reports from Teachers; 11. Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE VIII.

All meetings for business, ——— members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX.

Special Meetings of the Committee of Management may be called by the Superintendent, or any three of the members.

ARTICLE X.

The Annual Meeting of this Society shall be held in the month of ——— in each and every year, when the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be submitted, and the election of Officers for the ensuing year take place.

ARTICLE XI.

All appointments to office shall be subject to the approval of the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit or Mission.

ARTICLE XII.

No person shall be permitted to retain his situation, as Officer or Teacher, whose moral character, or religious opinions, shall render him in the opinion of the Committee, or the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit or Mission, unfit for such situation.

CONSTITUTION FOR A SINGLE SCHOOL WITH THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

ARTICLE I.

This School shall be called the ——— Wesleyan Sunday School, Auxiliary to the Wesleyan S. S. Union.

ARTICLE II.

The Officers of the School shall be a Superintendent, (and, when deemed necessary an Assistant Superintendent,) Secretary and Librarian, to be appointed as hereinafter provided for, and these shall retain their respective offices until their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE III.

The School shall be under the supervision of a Committee to be composed of the Ministers and Preachers on the Circuit, (the Superintendent of the Circuit being President, and his colleagues—if there be any—Vice-Presidents,) the Superintendent, Secretary and Librarian of the School, and, where practicable, not less than nine other persons, one-third of whom shall be nominated by the Quarterly Official Meeting, one-third by the Teachers from among their number, and one-third by the retiring Committee from the list of subscribers. Provided, that no person shall be eligible to serve on the Committee who is not a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

ARTICLE IV.

The Committee shall meet once a Quarter, and oftener if required by three of its members, with the concurrence of the President, or in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, and shall have power—

1. In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents to appoint a Chairman to preside over the meeting.
2. At its first meeting, which shall be held as soon as convenient after the Anniversary meeting, to appoint the Officers of the School, as mentioned in Art. II., and two or more General Visitors, who must be members of the W. M. Church. But no person shall be permitted to retain his situation, as Officer or Teacher, whose moral character, or religious opinions, shall render him in the opinion of the Committee, or the Quarterly Official Meeting of the Circuit, unfit for such situation.
3. To decide all questions referred to it by the teachers meeting.
4. To raise moneys for providing books and other necessities for the use of the school, and to disburse the same.

At all regular meetings of the Committee, the following order may be observed.

1. Singing and prayer. 2. Calling roll. 3. Reading minutes. 4. Unfinished business. 5. Reports from Sub-Committees. 6. Reports from Superintendent, Treasurer, Librarian, and General Visitors. 7. Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE V.

Teachers and Absentee Visitors shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, on their entering the School, and elected by the teachers' meeting one month subsequently.

ARTICLE VI.

Regular Teachers' Meetings shall be held, where practicable, on the ——— of ——— month, for the transac-

tion of such business as may legitimately come before them. This meeting shall have authority to make rules and regulations for its own government, subject to revision by the Committee, to recommend to the said Committee such by-laws or regulations for the government of their School, as they may from time to time deem advisable, and to vote on all nominations made by the Superintendent.

ARTICLE VII.

The Annual Meeting of this School shall be held, when practicable, in the month of ——— in each and every year, with power

1. To receive the Annual Report of the Committee, and when advisable, sanction its publication.
2. To appoint the Committee of Management; also a Secretary, Treasurer, and one or more Auditors, who shall be ex-officio members of the Committee.

... ENGLISH WESLEYAN PERIODICALS.—The English correspondent of the Chicago Christian Advocate gives the following information: "The Wesleyan Conference issue, or cause to be issued, several magazines, of these the oldest, which is now venerable for age, being four score years and ten, and has appeared with an uninterrupted regularity during that long period, still shows signs of life, power, and usefulness as great as it ever did. Although the price is high, one shilling monthly, yet it reaches a circulation of 25,000 each issue. It is ably conducted, and is at once authoritative and creditable to the body it represents. Divinity, biography, science, art, and literature, are all judiciously blended, and its editor, Mr. Frankland, the son of an old minister, and himself a preacher since 1845, has won for himself great praise for the judgment with which he has maintained the character and circulation of this the oldest of religious periodicals. During the present year, what is known as the sixpenny magazine, which used to be made up from articles selected from the previous month's larger work, has appeared as an entirely new work under a new editor, the Rev. B. Gregory. It has already made a favorable impression in the body for boldness and originality, and a freshness which has made this edition once more a favorite to readers generally, which it could not be when it consisted of last month's cold meat re-hashed and re-served. Some of the seniors in the ministry are reported to have felt some misgivings at the freedom of expression and thought which characterized the early issues this year, but fear has now given place to commendation, seeing that the change works well morally and financially. Both these serials are illustrated with a finely engraved portrait on steel of one of the preachers. The newspaper press of English Methodism is represented by the *Watchman*, which has had an uphill career from its birth in 1835. It arose out of a storm, which, for a time threatened the peace of the body, and has had amongst its editors some able and worthy men—laymen—amongst whom Dr. Humphrey Sandwith and Mr. William Gattwiser will always deserve honorable mention. Its last editor, Mr. Rigg, died about a year ago, and his successor has not been appointed. In the meantime two of the preachers at the Mission House are rendering the paper their aid. It is simply a broad sheet of news, and one of its features at present is to give a sort of panoramic sketch of the opinions of the principal political papers in England on all current topics. Religious newspapers do not flourish in England, and the *Watchman* has long felt the force of that fact. An exception to the rule just named must be made for the *Methodist Recorder*, a weekly penny broad sheet, which, in spite of its uncomfortable size and form, takes admirably with the people, and has a weekly circulation varying from 25,000 to 30,000. In its contents will be found a fairly digested summary of religious and general news and literature, with some of the features which distinguish American newspapers; an occasional tale of the right stamp and ring, and frequently a good sermon. Its circulation has been improved lately by a series of ten letters, which have chronicled the journeys of Mr. Punshon during the past year, written by the preacher himself, and which are read with an eagerness and delight which the writer may be able to understand. The Rev. Luke H. Wiseman, the junior Secretary at the Mission House, is Editor-in-Chief.

... "WESLEY PREACHING ON HIS FATHER'S TOMBSTONE."—Of the subject of this fine picture the notice of the *Sunday Magazine* says: "Seven years after his father's death, seven weeks before his mother's, 'a grave man, little of stature, in full canonicals,' stood on his tombstone in Epworth churchyard, and preached there for eight successive summer evenings to dense and ever denser crowds. 'Near forty years,' John Wesley says, 'did my father labour here; but he saw little fruit of his labour. I took some pains among this people too, and my strength also seemed spent in vain. But now the fruit appeared. There were scarce any in the town in whom either my father or I had taken any pains formerly, but the seed sown so long since, now sprang up, bringing forth repentance and remission of sins.' A new religious movement had sprung up, destined to waken the religious life of England, and to found a vast Church, and of the first fruit that was gathered the seed was sown by the patient hand of the old rector of Epworth. Nor was this the only mark he left upon it. His gift of rhyme developed in his son Charles into a worthier faculty. The poet of Methodism became the poet of the Church, and hymns of Wesley will be sung as long as there are hearts in England to love Christ."

... THE MISSIONS ON THE PACIFIC COAST.—The *British Colonist*, of Victoria Vancouver's Island, in Noticing the Annual District Meeting of that Island and British Columbia, says:—"This meeting has just closed its sittings in this city. The reports from the various missions on the districts speak of marked progress. The congregations are enlarged; and in-