

brink, and called in our ver-

test use to the ancient Egyp-

Egyptian paper is as follows :

taken off, there are several

together, and covered with

of the "Papyrus". From

ing on, by the ancients,

honour of this invention is

of Pergamus, in Asia, who

ry in his own country, that

ry, began to import Papy-

king prohibited the ex-

led Eumenes to have the

them he thenceforth co-

to put into his library.

the place where the art of

came the latin "Perga-

ment.

of those historians who

invented parchment, al-

considerable improvement

appears a sort of parch-

was born. According

old wrote all their re-

us that the "ancient

p skins and goat skins."

the Jews made use of a

nes; for we read of "a

," Jer. xxxvi. 2; and a

iv. 4. And, some sup-

aw, which Hilkiah found

ah (see 2 Chron. xxxiv.

parts of France, and in Siberia. This singular stone has the quality of supporting the action of fire without any damage. The method of making Paper from it is as follows: The stone is pounded in a mortar until it is reduced to a substance like cotton. All the earthy or stony particles are then separated by means of a fine sieve; by mixing it with water it is formed into a paste; it is then put into the form required, and after it is dried, it forms a white incombustible Paper. The paper made from "Asbestos" is more a matter of curiosity than of utility.

Although somewhat irrelative, it may nevertheless be added, that the ancients had a method of making a kind of cloth of the Abestos, which was capable of resisting altogether the action of fire. Pliny says, "he had himself seen napkins thereof, which, being taken foul from the table after a feast, were thrown into the fire, and by that means were better scoured than if they had been washed in water."

The Chinese make Paper from four kinds of substances: from linen as in Europe; from young bamboo; from the skin that is found in the webs of the silk worm; and from the interior bark of the mulberry tree.

The Japanese likewise, make paper from the bark of the mulberry tree.

About the tenth or eleventh century was discovered a method of making Paper from cotton; which, for general purposes, soon set aside the use both of the Papyrus of Egypt, and the Parchment of Asia; and Paper from cotton continues to be made in some parts of the East to the present day. But the most useful kind of paper is that made from the paste of linen rags, which is now used all over Europe and America, and in various other parts of the world.

The time of this invention is not known with certainty, but it must have been early in the fourteenth century, if not before that time, for Dean Prideaux informs us: "There is in the Bishop's registry at Norwich, a register book of wills, all made of paper, wherein registrations are made which bear date 1370." And he adds "I have seen a registration of some acts of John Granden, Prior of Ely, made upon paper, which bears date the 14th year of King Edward II., that is, Anno Domini, 1320."

And as the date of the invention cannot be correctly ascertained, so neither can the country where it was first used. Some give the honour to the Germans, others to the Italians, some to the Greeks. Du Halde is persuaded that Europe derived this invention from the Chinese, whilst others say it was of Arabic origin, and was brought from the East, by the Saracens of Spain.

By whom it was invented, and in what place, is a matter of comparatively little importance. This is certain, that by the invention of Paper, as now generally made, and the subsequent invention of printing, the darkness of the middle ages was dissipated, and a mass of information given to mankind on all subjects, which, without some such means, could not have been so disseminated. And although it is admitted, that much that is highly pernicious is propagated by means of the press, yet much information that is highly valuable, has also been widely circulated, and particularly on religious subjects, which stand so intimately connected with man's present and everlasting welfare. And through the means of the Press, shall the Bible be given to every nation upon earth.

April 3, 1832.

W. W.

To the Editor of the Wesleyan.

LIVERPOOL. April 4, 1832.

My Dear Brother,

It having pleased the great Head of the Church to pour out his spirit upon different parts of the circuit, I gladly communicate some particulars respecting it for the Wesleyan, for the encouragement of such as wish well to Zion. During

the protracted meeting which was held in this place, in the month of October last, a very gracious influence was experienced, the Society in general was quickened and comforted, and a considerable number of persons were made happy partakers of justifying grace. On going to the western section of the circuit in the ensuing month, I found that tidings of these things had gone before, and earnest desires were expressed for similar visitations; and blessed be God, as if to encourage these desires, one woman was deeply convinced of sin under the faithful word. But on the first of January, brother Jost having gone there in the way of his appointment, a young man who had been for some time concerned for his soul's salvation, rejoiced in God with exceeding great joy.—His brother who was standing near, was seized with strong conviction, and continued earnestly seeking pardoning mercy for two or three days, until as they were wrestling with God in his behalf, he obtained an assurance of his forgiveness, through faith in the atoning blood—another champion for sin, was deeply wounded, by "the Spirit's two edged sword," and after severe and protracted anguish, so great at times as entirely to deprive him of bodily strength, he was enabled to believe with his heart unto righteousness, and was made truly happy, being filled with joy, and peace in believing.

Some time previous to the last deliverance spoken of, a woman who had been for some years seeking the Lord came into the room; brother Jost, having ascertained the state of her mind, asked her if she believed the Lord was able and willing to bless her then.—She replied "I believe he is,"—on which they kneeled down and prayed, and the Lord graciously answered her praying faith, and introduced her into the glorious liberty of the children of God. The work then increased gloriously, and in the course of a week or two, our worthy brother having gone to Sable River, a place where a Local Preacher has been long labouring without fainting, the Lord there poured out his convincing Spirit, and between 20 and 30 were blessed and saved. I have just returned from a ten days' sojourn in that section of the circuit, and have been highly gratified with the numerous, clear and affecting testimonies to the power of grace,

Truly yours,

WM. SMITH.

THE WESLEYAN.

METHODISM.—The hallowed triumphs of our past history cannot be contemplated without stirring our holiest sympathies, and awakening our warmest gratitude to God; our present power to do good (though by no means commensurate with the wants of "a world lying in wickedness") is immense;—our future prospects, in proportion as we continue to climb the eminence of holiness brighten into millennial lustre, and the eye of faith discovers a world converted to God, a Church all purity and love, "without spot or wrinkle, or any such thing," singing the hallelujahs and breathing the atmosphere of heaven! Such is the will of God—such are the legitimate objects of Methodism; and, if we are faithful to our trust, and true to our calling, such is the final victory that awaits us, when

"The earth is overflowed,
And the universe filled with the glory of God."

For the information of persons unacquainted with our numbers, let me say, that there are now, actively employed throughout the world, no less than about