

Now, that he is a travelling preacher at all is more than I expected when I first saw him, seeing he was then married and encumbered with a family; and, also, that going out into the field with a family, at the age of twenty-eight, after a membership of ten years, he has mounted up successively to the position of town and city preacher, Secretary of Conference, Chairman, Co-delegate, and lastly President of an Annual Conference, outstripping some who were somewhat conspicuous when he was converted, is certainly very noteworthy. To what are we to ascribe it? Doubtless principally to mind, worth, work and force of character. Some men are kept back, especially in deliberative proceedings, by a sort of feeling which follows them like their shadow, that it is presumption in them to avow any opinion of their own. Not so with Mr. Williams; he thinks he is just as likely to understand matters as others, and has just as good a right to utter his opinion. Although in private circles self-assertion may be criticized, yet it is always largely succumbed to in the long run.

Mr. Williams, as we have intimated, was born in Wales, in 1817; came to Canada at the age of sixteen, and resided in Prescott, where he was converted and remained till he was twenty-four or twenty-five years of age. He commenced business on his own account in Kemptville, where he resided some years, and was a very popular local preacher. He transferred his residence and business to Bytown for some time, whence he went out as a Chairman's supply in 1846, under the auspices of the Rev. Richard Jones, the Chairman of the Cobourg District, whom our subject resembles in person and character somewhat, as well as in their common nationality, Welsh.

As to the order of his circuits, and stations, and ministerial progress, are they not written in the chronicles of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, so conveniently digested in Mr. Cornish's Hand-Book. From that invaluable manual it appears that Mr. Williams has had the best of circuits. Springing full-armed into the arena, he never needed, like some of us, to go through the probation of a "Brush University." Just read: Hollowell, Napanee, Sheffield, Consecon, Wilton, Cookstown, London Circuit, Owen Sound, Milton, Toronto East, Port Hope, Brockville, and