this date to Dec. 31st., 1881-aight months.

BOOK COMMITTEE.

The Annual Meeting of the Eastern Section of the Book Committee will be held in the Book Room (D.V.) on Thursday, May 19th, at 10 a.m. The Executive Committee will meet the previous evening at 7.30.

JOHN MCMURRAY,

SUPERNUMERARY FUND.

The Annual Meeting of the General Committee of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund is to be held at the Methodist Book Room. 141 G:anville Street, Halifax, Thursday evening, the 19th of May, at 7 o'clock. H. PICKARD.

J. R. INCH.

Sackville, N.B., April 21, '81.

THE WESLEYAN

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1881.

Do not forget that our Book Room and Printing Office has been removed to 141 Granville Street.

THR LATE UR. PUNSHON.

The audden decease of this distinguished minister is the beginning and end of Methodist intelligence by the last English mail. The shock has been felt in every part of the Methodist world, and even beyond it. On another page we give an account of his last illness, furnished by his intimate friend and latest ministerial travelling companion, the pastor of the St. James' St. Church, Montreal. The narrative is not necessary, to live to do God's abounds in touching passages.

A deeply impressive funeral service was held in the Brixton Hill Chapel, previous to the interment. The whole area of the building was filled with leading ministers and laymen of the denomination. Mr. Punshon's early schoolmate and life-long friend, Dr. Gervase Smith, had hoped to attend, but was strictly forbidden by his physician. After preliminary services in which Revs. F. J. Sharr, Dr. Rigg, Hugh Johnson A.M. (of Montreal) and Marmaduke Osborn, took part, the President of the Conference gave an address haveminent talents, and untiring devotion work." of the departed minister. At the close of the service nearly fifty carriages, includfiting the Lord Mayor's proceeded to Norwood cemetery. As a mark of respect the cem stery chaplains headed the procession from the gate to the grave, cently found a place in our columns. If around which several thousands had ga- some others have not appeared, it is bethered. The burial service was read by cause their sentiments had been anticithe President and the Rev. Dr. Osborn, pated by those our readers have seen. and soon the coffin which contained the Henceforth our brethren on the misremains of one so widely known and sions of the island colony may dismiss loved was hidden from sight. Those any fears lest from their previous silwho had been near it had read on the ence they should be supposed to be shield-shaped plate which it bore.

May 29, 1824; died April 14, 1881." thodism weeps is not easy. A decided consecration at the outset of the Christian people. life, and an "intense struggle" at the character to the work of a lifetime. In lay the secret of his success in that work. The son of an English local preacher some time since told us that he had seen tears fall from the eves of the eloquent preacher as he privately spoke at the close of the service, of the responsibility of addressing the crowds who had that day hung upon his utterfor his pulpit, and his lectures will be more men. He would like to pilot Dr. tic to the other. He who listened to words respecting the "enlarged exthe platform effort of the week was none perience of missionary work and more his ancestry and his conversion, he denied the doctrine that 'every man has his price;' and the ability which could have won a dozen fortunes accepted the slender allowance of a Methodist preacher." While his loyalty was perfect his larger than that of some kingdoms. bearing toward those who differed from him in opinion was a " pattern of charity and moderation." His dissent from the views of others was not unnecessarily marked, and his name was never lent to sharp controversy. Greatness did not in his case, as in some others, inter- it cannot well be otherwise. Refere with the free play of good natur | cent statements, given by Sir William al qualities. On the contrary, the gen- Whiteway before the Legislature, set ial and modest temper which marked forth the causes of the general financial

For One Dellar—cash with order— his intercourse with his brethren, and the WESLEYAN will be sent from the absence of all pretension but ren dered him the more popular.

> It is seldom that the eloquent orator and rare ecclesiastical ruler are so com bined in any one individual. Such combination is in some respects fortu nate: in others it seems the reverse Admiration and consequent influence may be secured by it, but he who wire them is not seldom doomed to bear double load.—a burden he may support while he stands erect, but which may prevent him from rising when once he has fainted or fallen. Such a load was borne by Dr. Punshon when, to the financial burden at the Mission House, he added "labors oft" in the pulpit and frequent exhaustive addresses on missionary topics. The President, in reference to his needed rest and his reluctance to go out of harness "even for a week," remarked "Even his holidays were not seasons of relaxation, but variations of toil. His public movements were watched, his resting for s night in town or village was an event for the Methodists of the place, a service was exacted, and the largest rooms to be had were obtained and crowded with people anxious to hear, the great orator. There is no ground for surprise at the event which has made the Connexion at home and abroad mourn as one man, and has pierced the hearts of multitudes who belong to other causes acknowledging Christ, our common Head, and who share our loss in that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel." Yet the past will be repeated; and exacting churches will continue their exactions and willing workers will cease ere accomplishing half their benevolent designs. To rust out work wisely and well is desirable.

The Methodist says." Our beloved Church has been greatly bereaved during the last few years. When men reach three-score years and ten we can reconcile ourselves to their departure. When they leave us under three-score we find it hard to submit. Wiseman, Perks. Coley, Punshon, have all died between nifty and sixty. We can ill afford to lose such leaders of our Israel in their maturity. How is it that our great men break down so early? Report says that another distinguished preacher, Alexander Maclaren, is failing. God buries ing reference to the Christian character, His workmen, but He carries on His

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFER-ENCE FINANCES.

Several letters on this subject have redwelling in special pastures. Our only "William Morley Punshon, LL.D., born regret is that any practical result from the communications published is likely To speak of one over whose grave Me- to be prevented by the smallness of the circulation of our paper among their

These letters in general breathe threshold of ministerial service, gave manly tone, quite in keeping with the opinion which a brief visit several years the repeated consecration of later years ago led us to entertain respecting the ministers of our Church in that section. The financial crisis through which they are passing has been foreseen by them selves as well as by others. We may not wholly acquit them of the charge of financial recklessness, but it is such a recklessness as challenges at least some degree of admiration. They saw the ances. Fesp cting his gifts we write need, and aimed to meet it, letting the with diffidence. They made him the morrow care for itself. In this hour of foremost man of English Metho- pinching need they raise no cry for redism, if not of universal Metho. trenchment. One earnest brother, for dism. The fame of his sermons led whose letter we have not space, is invisitors to Britain to ask anxiously deed so bold as to hint at the need for likely to pass into the list of English Sutherland on a tour through the variclassics. The one was never antagonis. ous missions. Quoting the Doctor's the less likely to be saved by means of ample acquaintance with the field and the pulpit, effort of the Sabbath. These its needs," gained through his fifteen gifts were throughout life devoted, un- weeks journey in the North-West, he der God, to the Church he loved. They sxpresses a strong belief that a similar might have won him high distinction visit of a few weeks to Newfoundland. elsewhere, but "true to the Church of spent "not in vgoing to and fro by steamer or carriage, but in fishingsmacks, bait-skiffs and punts, faring as the brethren fare on many of the circuits." would cause him to turn his regards in part to the island whose area is

> We believe that Newfoundland is worthy of most careful attention from our missionary authorities. Just now some of our missions there may seem helpless, and the counsel to "do more" may meet with slight response, but

by the Premier that the quantity her the loss of Provincial aid. that of last year, while during these to nearly three times its former numerical strength! Under such circumstances nust suffer with them.

We predict for England's eldest colony brighter day. Her people have been getting glimpses of her mineral wealth. and of the agricultural and timber lands of the interior, and her government has ust entered into a contract for her first Railway, with a company who make no ecret of the fact that along the line they have undertaken are great grazing, farming, timber and mineral treasures. When these shall be developed and the great highway between Europe and America shall pass through Newfoundland, we, or our children, will look back upon what seemed the reckless enterprise of those ministers who to-day are suffering the consequences of their own zeal and feel that they thus saved the island for our Church. It even becomes a question whether an island with such possibilities for development, and which may be the future key to the American continent, should not share in the imporance with which we regard our magnificent territory in the North-west. To us n the past has been in a great degree entrusted the salvation of the population from Popery: to us, aided by the Presbyterians and others, may yet belong that task. That zealous efforts are being put forth by the Anglicans we readily admit, but the majority of their ministers, we have reason to fear, belong that section of the Episcopal Church which seeks no deeper foundation than that of apostolic succession, and votes the Reformation a blunder.

A DUTY OF THE HOUR.

The advancement of our Educational Institutions at Mount Allison will be one of the most important subjects for consideration at the approaching Conferences. Our people will of course expect to see our future policy outlined at the meeting of the Board of Governors which takes place early next month, but no definite action is likely to be taken until the Conferences shall have had opportunity for discussing the situation.

Whatever that policy may prove to be in detail, it must be assumed without hesitation that the care of these Institutions, which have played a most important and honorable part in the general Lower Provinces, is henceforth committed to the care of the Methodists of the Maritime Conferences. To brood over the injustice done, and waste time in idle regret, would be unworthy of a Church with a record like ours. That injustice has been done-that it is still peing done. - none can deny. withdrawal of all aid from all denominational institutions might be objected to on the ground of principle, but little could be said against the fairness of such action. That action, however, has not been taken; and he who runs may read that in Nova Scotia one college, to all intents and purposes denominational continues to hold in its grasp at east twenty thousand dollars of Provincial funds, while the grants made to other colleges in view of that appropriation have been suddenly, night we not say violently, withdrawn. A fact so evident cannot carelessly be dismissed. The silent witnessing of such an act would pervert the public con-

That our Institutions at Mount Allion must preserve their identity is perfectly clear. Any union of the Denomnational Institutions of the Province is undesirable and impracticable. That the cause of Higher Education would suffer loss through such an attempt is evident to all who have watched the educational history of our sister Province. Those Institutions at Mount Allison, founded by the yet uncopied liberality of Charles F. Allison and bequeathed to us, after they had been the theme of his thoughts by day and his dreams by night for so many years, cannot be passed over to any management which ignores in its ambitious aims that daily recognition of religion which is so necessary to the youth whose future course may involve the weal or woe of an almost endless succession of immortal beings. Our Institutions have come to us not as a burden, but as a blessing—a blessing of which we have as yet, we fear, formed no adequate

Mount Allison enters upon this new era in her high service under circumstances which challenge all possible rethat her very success has not called forth

weakness very effectively. It was shown some of the opposition which has cost of fish caught sixty-five years ago success of her students in competition was about equal to that caught the year | with those of older institutions has not before last, and considerably more than been unobserved. With a highly honorable record, with a staff of able educasixty-five years the population has grown tors in charge, there is only necessary to render her future more prosperous than the past, that generous support the people must suffer and the pastors which Methodists are giving to similar institutions all over the American Union. If we have no men who can place at the disposal of the Board of Governors such immense sums as frequently meet our eye for smaller purposes, in our exchanges, we have at least enough to place Mount Allison, by smaller gifts, in a far more effective position than she has vet occupied.

ONTARIO LETTER.

DRAR EDTTOR.—If apology is needed for my long silence as your Ontario Correspondent, let it be found in the fact that three years ago I tendered my res ignation to your predecessor on the score of health, and suggested a successor. But as no notice was taken thereand as the WESLEYAN comes regularly, I feel the old passion of writing as our correspondent stir often within And more than one abortive attempt has been made since June last

to write you. Let your readers picture me,in a snug parsonage in a rising village of twelve hundred people, thirty miles east of Lake Huron, and one hundred north of Lake Erie. A branch of the Great Western Railway sweeps through the place, putting it in immediate connection with Kincardine at the north and Hamilton at the south. Easter has been hereabouts the pivot on which our seasons have turned, from winter to summer. Our first snow fell on the fifteenth of November-and it still lingers in secluded corners. We had uninterrupted sleighing from about that period to the latter part of March, and by a little effort in making a track on the sides of the roads it might have been continued till within three days of Good Friday. During all this season, our railroads were scarcely ever inconvenienced by blockades, and our common roads were in excellent condition for sleighing. The result has been a great harvest for our saw mills and lumbering interests, and every industrious laborer has found an opportunity for remunerative employ-ment, "The times are so much better" is the frequent exclamation of our business men. But it must be confessed that the present prospects of our wheat

harvest are not cheering. The thaws which uncovered the wheat have been followed by severe frosts and a drouth of long continuance, so that the wheat fields look very brown. Notwithstanding the improvement of times in consequence of the abundant harvest of last year, and the propitious winter season, our section does not present that aspect of thrift you would naturally expect it to do. Depopulation is rapidly taking place in nearly all our towns and villages. Farm property is much depreciated in value. Our railroads are doing a very heavy business in removing from among us very many of our most enterprising families. Very many of these we regret to say, have gone to make a home, not in our own Manitoba but in Dakota. This depletion is being very seriously felt by our own Church in this section of country. Some of our principal stations will be greatly crippled this year by this state of things. We are happy to say our field

labor is not a station but a two-men circuit. We think a serious mistake has been made, in converting small villages, which were the heads large and strong circuits, into petty stations, hardly able to give a pas tor a meagre support and certainly not giving him sphere enough for the manly development of his strength and grace, and the maintenance of his healthful vigor. We think if it were the universal practice of Methodism to give a co-pastorate to its people, it would tend greatly to the promotion of pulpit efficiency and of revival interest and success, while a direct injury is done to the business of every village when it ceases to be the head of a circuit and thus ceases to draw to it from time to cience, and weaken its force, already time the leaders and stewards and members to attend its official meetings, and who always stop to trade as well.

Revivals have marked the present year among us. Our September campmeetings were seasons of great power. during which the "Higher Christian received much prominence. These were followed by the annual meeting of the Canada Association for the promotion of Holiness, held in Georgetown, which, though not very largely attended tended to give an impetus to the work of revival. The presence of that eminent revivalist, E. P. Hammond, in several of the centres of our population has fanned the flames, and Peterboro. Toronto, London, Hamilton, and Goder ch Districts have felt the impetus and rejoiced in the results. Last but not least. Brussels is enjoying its "showers of blessing." One hundred and thirty have knelt as penitents during the past six weeks at the altar of prayer, and more than sixty have to the present date joined the Church. Surely these spiritual results are not wholly disconnected with the enlarged liberality which characterized the previous year's devisings, when the Relief and Extension fund was inaugurated amidst hard times.

Death has touched us in some tender spots during the year. First fell, early in the year, our eminent friend, Rev. Hall Christopherson. Eloquent, genial, and successful, he died in his prime, in the maturity of his years, and at an age when the Church was looking to him as a coming man in many of her counsels. gard from our people. We are not sure The princely Wilkes fell next, the suc-

nent local preacher, the eloquent Church | copies of this cheap missionary periodi. statesman, the liberal contributor to her funds and the former representative of his city in the councils of our Do ninion. He fell, the martyr of a father's imperishable love to his offspring; in vainly endeavouring to save them from a watery grave he sacrificed his own life, at the very moment that he was arranging to give up business, and to devote himself more fully to Christ and his work. Lately, we have been startled with the news of the death of one whose name on the roll of ministers has stood next to our own for five and twenty years. Rev. William Hooke of Grimsby—an earnest and successful laborer in the vineyard of God. Lastly, but not least, have we felt the death of Dr. Punshon, as a personal affliction, coming upon us with startling suddenness, on the day we were commemorating the death of the Son of God. Our Annual Conferences draw apace

and already cast their shadows before them. Some things in the proceedings of our own last Conference have not given entire satisfaction, notably the nanner in which the London Conference representatives have been appointed to the Ecumenical Conference. then given to understand that each of the Annual Conferences would elect an electoral committee, and this committee would elect the representatives. Instead, therefore, of electing the men to the Council, we elected men to this committee. The other Conferences, however, in this respect refused to follow last Sunday a Romish prelate boldly our lead, and we were thus left without representatives. The Conference special committee therefore took the matter up and elected the representatives. They are men whom we all delight to honor, -Revs. John Wakefield and E. B. Ryckman-but had the whole Conference spoken their election would have given greater satisfaction. This year

Montreal leads the Conferences, beginning its sessions on the 25th of May. The name which was so suddenly sprung upon us as a Church by the first General Conference, has been thoroughly tested during the past seven years, and is found universally impracticable. A stranger enters a town and sees a pretentious church, and asks what it and is told it is the Methodist Church of Canada church. You want to head a bill, and again its awkwardness meets you, -as, the Methodist Church of Canada church anniversary, and thus in many instances : so that universal custom has changed its name into the Canada Methodist Church, a less awkward but not a correct or grammatical name. It was with great regret the majority of our ministers and people relinquished the euphonious, significant and distinctive epithet of "Wesleyan;" and with joy would nine-tenths of our people hail the restoration of a name which allies us to a theology which is our glory, and to a Church which excites our warmest sympathy and our most filial respect. It is not improbable that our approaching District Meetings and Conferences may take some action tending in this direc-

Our new hymn-book is being introduced gradually, and I think I may say rapidly. Some circuits, like my own, will wait till after Conference. hear it spoken of wherever introduced with high approbation.

The vigour with which church-building

enterprizes was pushed a few years since continues to hamper us but hitherto, none that I know of has been sacrificed. One has just been redeemed, mainly by the pluck of the ministers of the London Conference in the city of St. Catherine's. "The Welland Avenue church was fourteen thousand dollars in lebt, and fully unable to redeem itself. The times had crushed most of the trustees. It could carry a debt of \$8,000 and live. But no more. The mortgage was to be foreclosed on the first of March. The first church in St. Catherine's under the earnest appeals of its pastor, Rev. W. S. Griffin, came to its aid with \$3,000. Special District meetings were called together, and addressed by him, and within the specified time the remaining \$5,000 was promised and paid by the ministers, we of course asking our people to sustain us, and thus was a noble Methodist church saved from

becoming a Papistical Mass House. One of the means by which our own Chairman, Dr. Williams, has sought to impart higher efficiency to Methodism on this District has been by holding a wo days convention of class leaders and ocal preachers—a plan worthy of being universally adopted. The convention was highly instructive and successful.

Our own Conference meets this year in Brantford, on the first day of June, and it is fully anticipated that the Rev. Alex. Langford will be its President. H. R. R. S.

April 1881.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Towards the close of a busy week we find ourselves in new and much better quarters. Visitors to the city will find us at 141 Granville Street, next door to the well-known establishment of W. J. Coleman & Co. In view of this removal, additions are being made to the stock of our Book Room, which will render it more than ever worthy of the patronage of Methodists and the general public. The confusion incident to removal will account for any seeming neglect of correspondence, as well as for the issue of the present number of the WESLEYAN a day later than usual.

The April number of the Missionary Outlook should be read in all our homes. It is calculated to awaken a missionary spirit in our youth and at the same time to prompt the Christian gifts which would send true missionaries to the ends | there is not the slightest trace in Chriscessful merchant of Toronto, the emi- of the earth. We cannot say how many tian antiquity."

cal are circulated, but advise our read. ers to send fifty cents to the editor Re . Dr. Sutherland, Teronto, and re. ceive it. Dr. Sutherland, who has a rare faculty for saying just what he means, has this under the head of waiting:" "We are waiting, as patient. ly as we can, for tidings that Women's Branch Societies have been established in many of our circuits. What are the women of our churches doing in this matter ! Almost every denomination in the United States has its Woman's Missionary Society. The Baptista and Presbyterians in Canada are following snit, and the Methodists are lagging be hind. We utter no needless warning when we say that unless the Ma. thodist Church bestirs herself, her preeminence in missionary zeal and liberal ity will soon be a thing of the past. Other denominations will outstrip us in the

There are men who tell us that the persecuting spirit of Roman Catholician has passed away. We cannot believe this. Behind the teeth is likely to lurk the old spirit. In our own Dominion the teeth are being shown. At Ottawa declared that the civil power should submit to the authority of the church and denounced Roman Catholics who send their children to the common schools. Another prelate has just for bidden the French papers in Queber to discuss the action of certain authorities in reference to Laval University. Where would some persons he if the priestly jaws dared to close down upon them ? A slight study of the nest will afford an answer. Yet, in spite of the most vigilant effort to the contrary. a certain spirit of independence com sionally dares manifest itself. This and not any change in prelatical pretensions or spirit, affords some cause for

The N. Y. Independent thus team away the veil with which "society" disguises the wrong-doing of certain gifted men and women: "In common with others, we accepted for a time the current opinion that Mrs. Lewes died some time before her husband, while George Eliot was yet living with him and bore his name by courtesy. Finding this opinion questioned, we applied as near headquarters in London as possible, and learn that there is no doubt about the matter, and that "the lawful wife of the late G. H. Lewes is now living. 'George Eliot.'" our informant continues. "lived in open concubinage with of his mistresses), and the Eliot-worshipping set accepted the situation and objected mainly to having the fact stated in plain English. The nonsense about 'Eliot' considering herself married to Lewes etc., etc. imposed on those who wished to be imposed on, and on nobody else."

How readily some journals snap at any rumor calculated to prejudice the public against religious teachers. Several papers hastened to represent the young burglar recently shot at Andover, Mass., and his twin brother who escaped, as young men preparing for the ministry at the Theological Seminary. The assertion was wholly unfounded. They were blatant sceptics, openly disavowing any belief in the soul's immortality, and in the existence of a God -fair representatives, in short, of Ingersoll's teachings and their consequences. Philips Academy, at which they were students, has no connection with the well-known Seminary.

The first number of the Maritime Presbyterian, a monthly periodical, published by Rev. E. Scott, of New Glasgow, has been placed on our table. In the publication of this periodical, intended to supplement the official Record, and "wholly dedicated in all its aspects financial, moral and spiritual, to the Master's work, Mr. Scott is likely, we think, to benefit directly that branch of the Church of which he is a minister, and indirectly the Church of Christ at large. Does not the appearance of these cheap monthly magazines suggest a duty yet unperformed on the part of Methodism ! We think it does.

In an article on "Confirmation," in Dr. Wm. Smith's recently-published "Dictionary of Christian Antiquities Rev E. H. Plumptre, M. D., Professor of New Testament Exegesis in King's College, London, and Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, says: "Of what may be called the modern Protestant idea of con firmation as the ratification by the bap tized child, when he has attained an age capable of deliberate choice, of the pro mises made for him by his sponsors,

Rev. W. Stephen on Rev. D. pastorate at

8 Rev. S. B ed States. filled by the Rev. Robe merary min

ence, died A Rev. C. from Scotla of the New was appoint Revs. Pro

Duncan wer Circassian, 1 turday last. We are g Cowperthwa who recentl by being thr

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