continued. We may coalesce in spirit, preach the same doctrine, support and use the same methods, cultivate and realize the same experiences, and at last bring the harvests of our common salvation, though grown and gathered in different fields to the ssme heavenly garner above. It is a real and rich pleasure to be permitted to bring Christian salutations to your body at a time when our church and nation are generally peaceful and prosperous, and at a time too, when, as we trust, no international difficulties are likely to disturb seriously the friendship which has so long existed between the governments of Great Britain and the United States. Be assured our church will deprecate any estrangement between the mother country and ourselves. Let the recent mutual greetings of the Queen and President by the wings of the lightning be oft repeated and wax into undying love. A brief account of our affairs will not be uninteresting. But in giving this it will not be necessary to notice anything except these features which are novel or peculiar. We need not tell you, that we are operating all the instrumentalities of a general church organization. Nor need we dwell upon the sad event of our recent civil war. A glance at our present status and hypothetical future will suffice. *Our civil condition is hopefully modified.* Since we were last represented in your Conference by that great and good but now lamented man, Dr. Elliott, and his associate Dr. Peck,—a great revolution has taken place in our country—not a revolution in government, but a revolution in sentiment. Great ideas have wrought their inevitable changes. At the inception of our independency we recognized in theory the natural freedom and equality of all men; but immediately adopted a constitution and commenced a course of legislation irreconcilably at war with the sublime thought. This originated the irrepressible conflict which resulted in a war in the interest of slavery, followed by the emancipation of all the slaves as a primitive consequence of rebellion. Until the event of the war some eminent statesmen and divines together with many Christians and sinners defended the rightfulness of slavery. But, since God has so strangely and abruptly demonstrated the practicability of immediate emancipation the whole nation has adopted the idea of universal freedom and is fast and beautifully adjusting itself to the new situation. We do not fail to recognize the part that Canada took in this human work. It came to be known in the South that a slave could not breathe in England, and that her Majesty's Government operated as an infallible solvent upon the chains of the oppressor. This did wonderfully lubricate the joints of the black man, and made property in human beings insecure.

These political changes have opened to our church an effectual door in the southern states. This we have not failed to enter. Eleven new Conferences have been organized within the original slave states. These embrace and employ at least five hundred ministers, and considerably more than one hundred thousand members. We are lifting up the colored man in those regions by three levers—the Gospel—the Church Extension Society, and the Freedman's Aid Society. By the Gospel we convert him, by the Church Extension Society we build him a house of worship—by the Freedman's Aid Association we cleanse, clothe and educate him. Our Centenary achievements are worthy of grateful mention. You have heard of the millions contributed in the year 1866 for our various church enterprises. Two sequences have followed this act of consecration. First, it has developed our pre-eminent relative position among the churches of the land and secured a more respectable recognition of our power and usefulness. Second, it has unlocked the treasury of Methodism and committed to God the custody of its key. Riches were never so much consecrated and held in abeyance to the will of God as now in the church. She holds the world with a grasp loose and liberal as compared with the past.

Our material improvements deserve passing notice. We are in a transition state as regards church building. Magnificent structures are now going up in most of our chief cities and larger towns. There may be danger in this development, as it exposes the vanity-side of our nature to attack which is the weakest part of the human constitution. Nor can we complain or distrust, for these are the fruit of God's blessing. Three considerations have instigated progress in this direction. First, the general affluence of our condition, as compared with our primitive indigence. Second, a conviction that God requires the Church to give to his house an elegance and adaptability corresponding to our improved homes, and business houses and other refinements. Third, a growing belief that we need in our great centres some churches of more imposing exterior and internal attractiveness where we may concentrate our forces and and make our regenerating power felt amid the seething sea of human activities and pervating dissipations. The considerations just mentioned have governed in determining the new location and commodious enlargement of our Book Concerns. We have left obscure streets for those more popular and eligible premises. We consider our publishing interests as a most important arm in our ecclesiastical work, and feel quite authorized to regard our singular and untarnished success and credit during the run of half a century as an evidence that God has placed his seal upon this undertaking. The Sunday-school Institution with us, is an agency of rapidly augmenting power. It is the sweet element in all our religious gatherings, and a prime factor in all our calculations as regards the future. How to interest, educate, and save the children, is the problem of the United States. Our representations would be incomplete without a reference to our spiriitual conditions. Having obtained help of God, we remain unto this present, a revival church, a converting agency. Revivals are common, extensive, and powerful. It is the animus of the body, the boldest feature of our ecclesiastical contour, the most prominent element in our complex workings, and the force most coveted by the preachers and most in demand by the people. If a man save souls among us, his credentials as ambassador of Christ are at once accepted. Our people appreciate talent, learning, and culture, and are very fond of eloquence, but they will not substitute any of these qualitie, for what they call a live man.

Nor are we fastidous or pro-scriptive in relation to sex. If the successor of Suna, the prophetess, or Barbara Heck arise and speak to us of Jesus. we only ask the testimonials of grace, gifts and usefulness. These being given, we consider it quite canonical and apostolic, to listen and appropriate devoutly. We welcome and laud everything that contains revival powder. Even our Colleges are chiefly endeared to our people because they are seats of regeneration. We send our sons to them expecting that they will be led through the curriculum of repentance and faith, and graduate at once in letters and religion. This cherished hope is largely realized. Nor is this revival influence superficial and evanescent, though at this point has arisen our greatest danger. There always has existed a wholesome fear lest our great numerical increase and multifarious enterprise, cognate to our chief mission of spreading a pure evangelism, should subordinate Christian experience, and dilute our spirituality. Holy aspirations, like a receding tidal wave, is bearing the Church into deep seas. Private meetings, protracted meetings, and camp meetings are held specially for promotion of holiness.

The addresses of both ministers were racy, suggestive, instructive and inspiring; full of noble, Christian thought, and instinct with the fire of living Christianity. They were listened to with deep attention, and elicited from the audience frequent expressions of warm admiration.

The following resolution was then moved with an appropriate speech by Rev. Dr. Ryerson, and seconded by Rev. Jno. Borland:

That this Conference has heard with profound satisfaction the fraternal greetings of American Methodism, which have been so eloquently conveyed to us by the distinguished brethren, to whom it has been our high privilege to extend a grateful welcome upon the present occasion; and while we have listened with delight to the sentiments of fraternal regard and Christian affection expressed in the address that has been read to us, and the noble and inspiring utterance of our honored brethren, Dr. Lindsay and Dr. Lowry. We heartily reciprocate their expressions of brotherly kindness. We gratefully rejoice in the success of the great Church which they represent, and earnestly pray that God may make them a thousand fold more than they are, and that the bonds of Christian love that make us one in Christ, may grow stronger and closer through all coming years.

At this juncture an intimation from the President gave the audience to understand that the Rev. Gervase Smith, of England, was present. The announcement was received with expressions of enthusiastic approbation. Mr. Smith came upon the platform, and was introduced to the audience by Mr. Punshon, as the Companion of his boyhood, the Friend of his riper years, and the Man to whom he was most ardently attached.

Mr. Smith's address was full of sparkling humour, touching pathos, beautiful imagery, and stirring sentiments of loyalty and earnest godliness. It roused and swayed the audience with a power that vindicated Mr. Smith's reputation as a gifted orator and an earnest preacher.—*Christian Guardian.*

CELEBRATED PULPIT ORATORS.

LOCORDAIRE.

He preached first in the church of St. Roch, in the spring of 1833. Montelambert heard him first, and testifies that he failed completely. We all said on leaving: "He is a talented man, but will never make a preacher." The preacher himself said: "I shall continue to live solitary; I have enough of nothing that goes to make up a preacher." A few months after he was incomparably the greatest preacher in Europe—the most magnificent eagle of eloquence since the time of Bossuet; for it so happened that, as his thoughtful sympathies and earnestness and holiness were known to a few youths of the most unpretending of the Paris colleges—the College Stanislaus—he was asked to deliver himself in what is styled Conferences to them; he promised to do so. At the second conference, the chapel was unable to hold the crowd. The third, a temporary gallery was erected. His enemies became busy; he had emerged again from obscurity; he was denounced at Rome, denounced to the government, and denonnced by the Archbishop of Paris. He was charged with heresy and impiety. Some of the priests, who, in fact, never did like him to the close of his career, charged him with atheism; it was said that in some of his conferences he had not pronounced the name of Jesus Christ one single time. He replied to this concisely: "I scorn the annoyance given to me; I fulfil my duty as a man and a priest; I live alone in continual study, calm, trustful in God and the future." Others did not hesitate to scoff. To them upon due occasion, he said: "Gentlemen, God has made you witty, very witty indeed, to show how little he cares for the wit of man." The Archbishop of Paris seems to have behaved with remarkable courage. He was memoralized by a deputation of law students to find a larger church for the preacher, and he called upon him to mount the pulpit of Notre Dame. Montalembert scarcely rises to exaggeration when he says that, "by his conference in Notre Dame, he immortalized that pulpit."

He was thirty-three years of age. In the midst of his fame he fled from Paris to Rome, and startled all his friends ere long, by plunging into one of the severest and most ascetic orders of the Church. He assumed the white robe of St. Dominic; he became one of the friar preachers, and devoted himself to an effort for the resurrection of religious orders; he plunged down also into the deep volumes of St. Thomas. "Would that I had long ago drunk of those deep waters," says the monk. Five years passed away before he appeared again in Paris. He appeared then at Notre Dame, with shaven head and white habit, in the midst of six thousand young men. He also always regarded himself as especially the preacher to young men. And from year to year he appeared gathering immense audiences; while, in the provinces, founding his religious orders, and seeking to obtain freedom from the impositions of the government, especially for the white habit of the Dominican. I confesss I have little sympathy with the brand of St. Dominc myselt, perfectly aware of the wonderful beings that order has produced, nor less aware of its cruelty and saturnia of abominable crime. With this, however, here we have nothing to do; the order has produced men among the most affectionately holy of our race, and of these Pere Lacordaire is one.

CHARLES SPURGEON.

It may be safely affirmed that never, in any period of the history of the Christian Church, did any man rise and hold in sustained attention and active Christian useful labor a weekly congregation, certainly not numbering less than from five to six thousand persons, with no popular prestige, no music to aid, no robes to give effect, no ceremonials of service—plain, simple, unadorned.

There can be no doubt that perhaps first, and before all things, the voice accounts for much—a voice of astonishing compass, a voice, the waves from which roll with astonishing ease over the most immense company, full, sweet, and clear—clear and ringing as a bell—a voice like the man and the matter, independent of most nervous impressions, all nervous agitations. It is a clarion of a voice. Other voices of orators have pierced us more, have possessed more accent, have been able to whisper better; but we never knew nor conceived a voice with such thunderous faculty. I have called it a trumpet, and, better still, a bell; it is not a perfect peal; but its tones roll on; there is no exhaustion. The tones are not many, but they are full and sweeping, and they give the idea of a great, fully-informed, and immensely capacious will and nature. Mr. Spurgeon might possess many of his mental attributes, but, manifestly, this power of being easily heard, of always striking the right pitch, so that he compasses immense assemblies, is one great element of success in holding the attention of masses of people. It is an old idea, and a very true one we believe, that the voice is the man—as the voice is, so the soul—a full voice is a full nature. The last achievement of Mr. Spurgeon will be regarded by many as the most wonderful of all in his early but extraordinary career. Whatever the capacities of the Agricultural Hall of Islington may be, and its minimum of 12,000, or its maximum of 20,000 auditors, unquestionably the Church notes in its history very few instances of preachers able to attract and hold in attention so mighty a mass.

Mr. Spurgeon is evidently a born preacher—absorbs into his mind readily all that he sees, reads or hears, and talks it all forth again with amazing fulness and freshness. His memory, that wondrous assimilative power which, indeed constitutes the soul, is something prodigious. It is not difficult to him to talk at any time, to any length, although his wisdom has always been shown in the moderation with which he has taxed the time and patience of his audience. This talking power is another reason of his great success. It has precluded, in his case, the necessity of great preparation, which, however splendid may have been its results in many eminent preachers, is always a token of, or a preparation to, remoteness from an audience, where it is not a sign, as it more frequently is, of the poverty and shallowness of the stream from which the preacher fills his vessel.

Twelve years since, in a paper I wrote upon him, I likened his style to that of William Cobbett. The likeness would be still more opposite now. It is a level style on the whole, though of course we are prepared to note great exceptions. It is a thoroughly English style—it rolls, yet the sentences are, never long—they never will be where the wheels of the mind are running swiftly, and the furnace of the soul is hot. Quiet, sweet, contemplative spirits like Jeremy Taylor, who wrote his sermons for drawing-rooms, and the private chapels of country mansions; thoughtful but unearnest time-servers like South—though he illustrates to us how striking and telling he could make his sentences when he had any bullying or coarseness to do with that renogade tongue of his; preachers like Barrow, who did not write his sermons to preach at all, but as exercises for the study, or if preached, as we know, expected his audience to listen for three or four hours—preachers such as these, who are not especially enkindled themselves in the pulpit, and who have not upon their souls the determination to keep their audiences alive and awake, do not break up their words and sentences. There is all the difference in their style, and such a style as that of Wm. Cobbett or Charles Spurgeon as there is between an Atlantic and a Pacific wave. The long, peaceful, measured roll of the one is very different to the sharp and rocking surge and clash of the other. They are both seas and waves; but for a strong excitement—for keeping a soul alive, intense, and up to the listener's mark—and as indicating the real life of the preacher himselt in the place where you expect him to be alive—it seems an indispensable requisite that his words should fall into rapid transformations."

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1870.

THE CONFERENCE.

The Sixteenth Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Eastern British America commences in Yarmouth this morning under the Presidency of Dr. Pickard. It may interest the readers of the "Wesleyan" generally if we state when, where, and under whom, each preceding Conference held its sessions. We furnish the information on these points in brief tabular form, fitted to occupy a convenient corner in fast-filling scrap-books as follows:—

Conf.	When.	Where.	Under whom.
1.	1855	Halifax,	John Beecham.
2.	1856	St. John,	Matt. Richey.
3.	1857	Sackville,	"
4.	1858	Halifax,	"
5.	1859	Ch'town,	"
6.	1860	Fred'cton,	"
7.	1861	St. John,	W. B. Boyce.
8.	1862	Halifax,	H. Pickard.
9.	1863	Ch'town,	Chas. DeWolf.
10.	1864	Sackville,	W.L. Thornton.
11.	1865	Yarm'th,	Jno. McMurray.
12.	1866	St. John,	George Scott.
13.	1867	Halifax,	Matt. Richey.
14.	1868	Fred'cton,	W. M. Pubshon
15.	1869	Ch'town,	Henry Daniel.

We are glad to find Dr. Pickard again this year in the Conference Chair. He is one of the most laborious servants of our Church, and has rendered it the most valuable service in every department of its work. He is also, as is universally conceded by his brethren, the ablest, the most thorough business man in our Conference, and a counsellor of the soundest judgment in Connexional affairs. We trust that abundant strength and grace will be vouchsafed to him to discharge all the duties of the Presidency with advantage to the cause, with satisfaction to his brethren, lay and ministerial, and with much comfort to himself.

The members of Conference will, no doubt, be much delighted to find themselves again assembled at Yarmouth for Conferential deliberation. The recollection of the cordial hospitality extended to them in 1865 by the intelligent and warm-hearted people of Yarmouth must have made the anticipation of meeting in Conference in that thriving town this year a very pleasing one during the past few months. The pleasantness of the anticipation has doubtless been much enhanced by the consideration of the fact that the means of reaching Yarmouth from distant portions of the Conference field are this year of a greatly more agreeable character than they were when Conference was previously held in that place. The construction of the Windsor and Annapolis railway, the placing of a steamboat on the line connecting Halifax with Yarmouth, and the establishment of steamboat communication between Yarmouth and St. John, have made it an easy task to get to Yarmouth from nearly all parts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

We are not aware that any questions or measures of unusual importance to the well being of the Connexion will engage the attention of Conference this year. But indeed the subjects that each year come before the Conference are matters of abiding importance. The enquiry annually prosecuted by the Conference concerning the condition of every institution of the Church and every department of Church work is never to be lightly regarded. The yearly deliberations of the Conference as to the best means of helping forward the cause of God are anxious, thoughtful, and solemn, and involve considerations of the most momentous nature. The steps taken, by receiving young men on trial or into full connexion, to provide for the due succession of ministers in the Church, are of great importance to the welfare of the denomination.

The yearly appointment of so many ministers with gifts so diversified to such numerous and diverse fields of labour is always a work of difficulty and importance.

The meeting in Conference of a large body of ministers, after the toils, trials and exhaustion of a year's work, in counsel to devise measures for the strengthening of each others hand in their common labours for the advancement of their Divine Master's cause in the world, is a source of joy, of refreshment of soul and of power, if only the right spirit pervades the deliberations held.

The fathers of the Conference are year by year passing away. Since last Conference Fathers Strong and Wilson have gone home to God, the former in the fifty-seventh year of his ministry, the latter in the fiftieth. They rest well after the storms they braved, and the conflicts in which they triumphed. But the ranks decimated are rapidly replenished. Though a willing recruit gained is not quite an equivalent for a well-trained veteran lost. A considerable number of young men, who have creditably passed the period of their probation, will be ordained during this year's Conference, and several, we presume, will be taken on probation.

For ourselves we hope the Conference that opens to-day will be memorable for the gravity and wisdom of its deliberations, for the spirit of mutual sympathy and love marking the proceedings of all its members, and for the abounding effusion of heavenly blessing, the plenteous descent of Pentecostal fire in connection with all its attendant means of grace. The members of our Church, far and wide throughout the bounds of our Connexion, can render the most essential aid at this important moment by lifting up holy hands without wrath or doubting, in supplication to the Almighty Father that He would be pleased during the next eight or nine days, to shed forth upon all our ecclesiastical and religious assemblies in Yarmouth the sevenfold energy of the Holy Ghost. J. R. N.

ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

Parliamentary Items — Education Bill — Marriage Laws — Disestablishment in Wales — District Returns — Between District Meetings and Conference.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—As the long warm days draw on, our Legislators get through the business much more rapidly, and begin to manifest symptoms of a desire to escape from London to the enjoyments of the country.

The Irish Land Bill has at length been passed up to the House of Lords, and that august body no longer complains, as at the beginning of the session, "that they have no work to do."

A number of important bills yet remain on haud, and the great measure for National Education has yet to be discussed in committee; and if much time be occupied in the earlier stages of the business, it is feared it will not pass into a law of the realm during the present session.

The United Committees on Education (Wesleyan), after four days' deliberation, have issued a series of Resolutions, suggesting some important modifications of the Government measure, and have also sent an influential Deputation to wait upon the Prime Minister.

The action taken by the United Committee is very generally received with favour by the great body of Methodists, and is commended by some of the political papers. It is felt to be an occasion for regret that this deliverance was not issued at a much earlier date. It does not now exercise so weighty an influence, nor will it tell so powerfully in Parliament. The Government will doubtless meet the views which have been laid before them, to some small extent, but it is feared that it will not be satisfactory to the great bodies of Nonconformists, or prove an abiding solution of the difficulty.

The much-talked-of bill for legalizing marriages with a deceased wife's sister has again been thrown out in the House of Lords. The very small majority of four is taken as a satisfactory proof of advancing strength on the part of the friends of the measure, and an omen of speedy victory.

The bill for the abolition of religious tests in the Universities is making good progress, and may possibly pass this session, and thus remove another of the monopolies which bear so heavily upon all who dissent from the National Church.

A motion was recently made for the disestablishment of the English Church in the Principality of Wales. It was proved to be the Church of the minority, and that it was not in accordance with the requirements of the people—that in fact it was an alien Church. The Prime Minister, in opposing the motion, did not attempt to confute the evidence which had been urged in proof, but admitted that in substance the same things might be affirmed of the county of Cornwall, where Dissenters formed the majority, but he objected to anything like piecemeal legislation upon this important subject. The Establishment in England and Wales was one, and must stand or fall together, and Mr. Gladstone clearly expressed his conviction that the time was very far distant when any proposal for disestablishment would be entertained in England. This motion may be premature, but it is an indication of a strong and rapidly advancing opinion, the present supremacy of one Church will not be quietly endured, and all recent legislation is in the direction of curtailing and not enlarging the Established monopoly.

The District Returns show an increase of membership in Great Britain of between 4000 and 5000. It was expected, from many hopeful signs, that the increase of the past year would be much larger, but it is now found to be a little in excess of that reported for the preceding year. There is ground for much thankfulness even with this increase, which by some is accounted small. It is doubtless far short of the expectations of the people of God, and appears small in view of the immense agencies which are being brought into operation for the conversion of sinners. It must at the same time be remembered with what exactness the numbers are made up on each circuit, and the care that is taken that the Returns shall in no case exceed the true numerical account of the fully accredited membership. Very heavy losses are reported from nearly every District of those who have ceased to be members, either by uniting with other churches, by removals which are not followed by union with Methodism in the new abode, and by actual backsliding. There is at present an unusual amount of emigration, and that from England is of a skilled class of artizans, seeking for employment abroad, and from this cause Methodism has had its full share of loss.

The period intervening between the District Meetings and Conference is usually very quiet. The great questions of the day are discussed in the Connexional papers, but all action is reserved until the assembling of the Fathers and Brethren. The June Quarterly Meetings attend chiefly to the monetary affairs of the circuits, occasionally doing a little in the way of invitations to supplement the work already done, or to attend to eligible chances which have presented themselves since the March meeting. B.

June 3, 1870.

A TRIP TO YARMOUTH.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Having been informally appointed scribe to the company of long coated gentry who had taken passage on the good ship "M. A. Starr," it becomes my duty to detail somewhat circumstantially the occurrences of our too protracted but pleasant voyage. A good ship well officered is not always at the disposal of ocean travellers; but in the present instance, we could wish no more of comfort and attention than was enjoyed by us.

Leaving the city of Halifax in the early morning, we soon entered the wall of fog, that frequently, during the summer months, shuts in the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia, and boring our way slowly and cautiously we neared and entered the port of Lunenburg. After an absence of some seven years your correspondent could see but very little change in the old town. It is true that a new drill shed and school house together with an improvement in the outward appearance of our well remembered church showed some advancement; while upon every side the same dilapidated wharves and stores, the same old time, head yoked oxen, the same peculiar German patois greeted our eyes and ears. Having discharged a portion of our freight, we put to sea again, to meet, what, to some of our number was more unpleasant than the fog wall, a stiff breeze and heavy roll from the broad sweep of the Atlantic. The night passed, and having lost a full hour of precious daylight moored outside the bar, we enter Liverpool. By the way—why do not our Government do something to aid in making this harbor accessible in all times of tide? Meeting here an old schoolfellow of one of our number half the quartette hauled off for breakfast to the hotel now occupied by Capt. J. C. Hill, where we fell in with several gentlemen of the long robe, and the venerable Judge Dodd; while the others found their meal matutinal at the residence of John Mulhall, Esq. Here, too, as the fasts were being loosened the well known form of Father Pope was seen approaching. Spry and sprightly as ever, the cares of life and the weight of years seem to press lightly on the hale old man, who, as we moved away, bade us God speed..

Off again, to reach Shelburne in time to enjoy a cup of tea at the hospitable board of R. P. Woodill, Esq., and to wander in the balmy evening air along the quiet streets of the oldest town in Nova Scotia. Here we stay some two hours, to pass out again into the dense mist which hitherto has greatly impeded our progress, and even as we write, promises still further to prolong our already too tedious passage. The monotomy has, however, been relieved by discussions upon various subjects of general interest, especially the stations for the coming year. Our improvised Committee was unfortunately forced to adjourn, or much might have been spared the brethren assembled and to assemble in Yarmouth. The tribute paid by our number to Neptune, was small when compared with that of some of our brethren who preceded us on the route, and whose accounts were not fully receipted by the God of the Sea, until the dentists work was transferred to his green coffers.

We cannot allow this opportunity to pass without alluding to the urbanity and gentlemanly deportment of the officers of our ship. Never in our ocean, coast, or river travel have we received so much attention rendered with such apparent readiness and frankness. In neatness and cleanliness, the "M. A. Starr" is not surpassed by the great ocean steamers. The only thing in which any possible improvement could be made would be her speed, which is all too slow for our present push and go-aheaditiveness.

Yours, &c.,

J. G. A.

Steamer *M. A. Starr* off Yarmouth June 16th, 1870.

Circuit Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL.

MR. EDITOR.—DEAR BRO.—Our annual meeting was held in Yarmouth, at the time fixed by the financial District meeting in August last.

The meeting which began on Friday terminated on Monday evening the 13th inst. All the brethren were present. A more harmonious meeting we have never attended.

The reports from the various Circuits were of a very encouraging nature. The membership however remains nearly the same as last year, notwithstanding a considerable increase on several circuits. The fall off has been in one of our "Home Missions," and the cause former troubles in the circuit. There is however reason to believe, that the station alluded to is recovering from its disorganized state through the arduous labours of a Local Preacher.

Financially the District has not been in so good a state for several years. There is an increase in all our connexional funds, especially that of Foreign Missions, which has advanced during the year nearly fifty per cent above that of last year.

We regret to note that, the most aged Brother in the District is obliged to seek a Supernumerary relation at the Conference. One of the young men also, of ten years standing is desirous, in consequence of general debility, to have the same relation for one year.

No young men have offered themselves as candidates for our ministry this year. We trust however that this will not be the case in other Districts. We fear from all we have heard that there will be difficulty this year in filling all our pulpits.

On Sabbath last, not only were the town pulpits supplied by strangers, but also the country parts, and some of the churches of other denominations.

Bros. Hart & Shenton are actively engaged in preparing the way for a good Conference.

It appears that an unusually large number of Preachers are coming to Conference. We apprehend however that they will all find a welcome in the hearts and homes of Yarmouth Christians.

We regret that it is too late to urge each Bro. to bring with him a large Conference collection. G. O. H.

Yarmouth, June 13, 1870.

TRURO.

The past connexional year has been one of progress to this Circuit in many ways. The blessing of the Lord upon the congregations produced a resolve to sustain all the finances of the Circuit, and the result has been most encouraging. The congregation in Truro has adopted the system of "weekly offerings" and the experiment has been a decided success. Each one "lays by him in store as God hath prospered him" during the week, and places the amount in the Sabbath contribution. The receipts have been raised to the full, and evidently with pleasure. The interest in Foreign Missions has not been permitted to decline—an advance of sixty dollars upon last year, marks the progress.

Our Home Mission collections have also gone up. The same may be said of our Connexional Funds generally.

During the year, a neat little Church has been erected at East Mountain, which reflects great credit upon the few brethren who sustained the work. It was set apart as a house of prayer, on the last Sabbath of our Ecclesiastical year. Bro. Smith (our Supernerary) preached the opening sermon. In Truro, the brethren have commenced the erection of a Church. This is a heavy undertaking—but we are suffering for want of sufficient accommodation.—Those having means would do well to help us.—In view of the blessings of the year we thank God and take courage.

J. READ.

June 13.

SACKVILLE DISTRICT MEETING.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—According to previous notice our District meeting was commenced at Moncton on Wednesday last, all our ministerial brethern in the then active work, and representing circuits were present at the opening or shortly after. Under the judicious guidance of our esteemed Chrirman the business of the meeting was actively transacted, so that with a short sitting on Friday morning at 6 o'clock, we were again ready to separate by ten. Two young men, candidates for the ministry, viz,—Messrs. W. H. Ibbitson & W. J. Frazer, were examined in the usual way, and having satisfied the meeting on the points embraced in the form, they were recommended to Conference as suitable persons for our work.

The reports of the Work of God on several circuits were encouraging, but, partly as the result of a more than usually large number of removals from many of them, it was found that we should be unabla to report on the whole an increase of membership. At the usual hour on Thursday morning eight of our lay brethern, and circuit stewards, joined us in the review of our various financial matters. From the circuit account it was found there were $842 deficiencies, leaving eight brethern very short in their scanty allowances; three or four quite one fourth. The hope of any relief from this burden for the brethern, from any funds at the disposal of the Conference appeared to be so hopeless that it was thought the presentation of the case for help would be trouble in vain. This is, a matter calling for the consideration and sympathy of our people, for surely such large reductions from the authorized allowances, which when paid up are but barely sufficient, must soon tell if repeated most injuriously on the comfort and suffering of the ministers concerned. A conviction seemed to rest in the minds of all the brethern present that on some matters, particulary that of Baptism, many of our ministers have not hitherto been so outspoken and faithful as truth, the interests of the church, and circumstances have demanded. A resolution calling the attention of the Conference to this matter and expressing the necessity for greater uniformity in the administration of the rite and a more general and faithful schooling of our people, with regard to it was unanimously adopted. The necessity of some plan for a more general diffusion of our methodist literature was also suggested and it was thought that could the approaching Conference decide on something simple and practical in this direction, our general work would be greatly served, and much spiritual advantage be conferred on our people, particulary on remote circuits. The brethern were very kindly entertained by the friends at Moncton, and were very harmonious among themselves, so that although some things could not but occasion painful feelings, the meeting was a happy and profitable one. S.

Sackville 11, *June* 1870.

THE REVIVAL IN MILWAUKEE.

The Union Revival Meetings have now been in progress six weeks, and we are in a position to form a pretty correct opinion of the work. It is certain that there is no diminution of interest in the public mind on the subject; the revival is everywhere the topic of conversation, some oppose it, 'tis true, but none ignore it. In the shop, on the street, on change, by the fireside, in the public conveyance, everywhere and at all times, men, women and children converse upon the subject, and interchange opinions pro and con.

A group of little chidren stop in their play and chant the sweet tune "I feel like singing all the time;" companies of school girls meet in a quiet room and hold a prayer meeting. Young men repair to some office and converse and pray together, and thus the flame grows and gathers strength day by day. In all this there is no unusual excitement, no wildfire, but deep, earnest seriousness. Those who cry "excitement," know not what they say. "The only excitement I have seen" said a gentleman the other day, (and he was not a convert), "is among the opposers—there is consternation there."

SOME OF THE FEATURES OF THE WORK.

One of these is the absence of terrifying appeals. There is less preaching, less exhortation than is usually heard in revivals of religion. Men's fears are seldom if ever appealed to; there are no fiery harangues. The ministers engaged in the work are cool, able men, men of warm sympathies, but at the same time, brethren who found their addresses upon reason and set forth Christ clearly and in scriptural language as the Saviour of sinners. The young converts give a clear and rational account of their conversion, and at times utter strong warning against the besetting sins of the times.

The revival appeared to commence among the children, although in reality, old and young were simultaneously affected and brought under its influence; yet its progress more particularly by the conversion of men. No correct estimate can be made of the number of young men who have made profession of faith in Christ since the commencement of the meetings, but it must be large. It is no unusual thing to hear twenty or thirty in one meeting bear testimony to the fact of their conversion; in every evening meeting a additional young men rise for prayer, and large numbers remain in the second meeting for religious conversation. These young men are principally clerks, a class of fine young men, many of them well educated. All of them working their own way in the world, bright, resolute and under the influence of religious feeling and influence destined to make the world feel their power. These young brethern go right to work among their companions, and every night seek out the ministers to converse with friends in whom they are interested. There will be a large band of young men in this city whose hearts God has touched.

Strangers passing through the city have tarried, and becoming interested have remained until they have found Christ and then like him of old, have gone "on their way rejoicing." Distant places are thus feeling the influence of the Milwaukee Revival.

The meetings are not only well sustained but are growing daily in interest and numbers. Last Sunday evening Music Hall was full, and although Mr. Hammond had left the city, it was evident that the people were too deeply moved to be deterred by the absence of any man, however popular, from the meetings; the power of God was present. The pastors engaged seemed to be specially prepared for the work, and the results of this meeting were as marked as of any one held in the Hall.

The meetings are continued each morning and evening in the First Presbyterian Church; there is yet no sign of weariness, no falling off in numbers, and no breaking down of pastors engaged in the good work. The brethern most active in this work are Rev. Messrs. Eddy, Fallows, Allison, Hill, Stone and Walters, with occasional help from other ministers and laymen.

The singing is a wonderful instrument for good. The people never tire of these sweet songs. There is more singing than usual in revival meetings. The powerful organ of the First Presbyterian Church has done more service for Christ during the past six weeks than in any three months of its existence. There has been no lack of singers or performers, among the latter the revival has had cheerful and efficient aid from Mrs. Benedict and Pro. Faville. The service they have rendered to this good work has been highly appreciated, indeed no money could have procured the hearty, effective work they have gratuitously given during these protracted services. No one yet speaks of the termination; each day hopefulness grows, as each day witnesses new inroads upon the enemy. J. A.

General Intelligence.

THE DOMINION.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Quebec has made an appeal for aid for the Saguenay sufferers by the late disastrous fire, saying that 655 families, making 2580 souls, have lost their houses, barns, furniture, clothes, agricultural implements, animals, &c., not even saving the grain sown in the earth.

The Montreal "Witness" of a late date, in speaking of affairs in Montreal, says:—"We regret to learn, that in the opinion of parties conversant with the condition of the city, there are between two and three thousand dwellings standing vacant in Montreal, representing a diminution of population to the extent of from ten to fifteen thousand persons, and that emigration is still going on."

MILLS BURNED.—A grist mill, and a saw mill, situated in Carleton county, N. B., were destroyed by fire on the night of the 1st inst., involving a heavy loss to the owners.

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.—At a meeting held in the Y. M. C. A. rooms the following gentlemen were appointed delegates to the Evangelical Alliance to be held in New York this summer:—Rev. G. W. Hill, Rev. Edwd. Annand, Rev. E. M. Saunders, Peter Lynch, Robert Murray, John Brookfield, Edward Smith, Rev. J. Forrest, James B. Morrow, Hon. Judge Young, Charlottetown; Rev. John Elliott, T. A. A. Brown.—*Reporter.*

RETURN OF THE ADMIRAL.—H.M.S. *Plover*, with Admiral Wellesley on board, arrived at Halifax on Wednesday afternoon from St. John, N. B.

SALMON.—There is a probability that a thriving business will be done this summer in the shipment of fresh salmon from New Glasgow to Boston via Halifax.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.—On Friday, 10th inst., Mr. Thomas McNayer, of Springfield, was drowned whilst bathing in the Annapolis river.

The Bridgewater *Times* reports that on Wednesday, the 8th inst., a young man named Wheaton, while working in the woods with five others, was so severely injured by the falling of a tree that he died on Tuesday morning.

COAL OIL AT LAKE AINSLIE.—A meeting was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Y. M. C. As. rooms, to elect officers and trustees in connection with the oil discovery reported not long since as having been made in Cape Breton. The result of the meeting was the appointment of Messrs. H. N. Paint and Cathcart Thompson, of Halifax, and Jacob S. Hart, of Whycocomagh, as trustees. It is proposed to form a company for the purpose of sinking oil wells at the place of discovery, Lake Ainslie. Messrs. David McDonald and Wm. Harrington have obtained a lease for 13 years of 400 acres of the land on which the coal oil has been discovered, and their proposition is to form a company for the purposes already mentioned. Capital to be $9000, in 60 shares of $50 each. The lease to be assigned the company.—*Reporter.*

A desperate attempt was made on Monday night, 13th inst., to set fire to the residence of W. Esson, Esq., Pleasant street. Perceiving the odour of smoke Mr. Esson went down to the kitchen, and discovered that the whole place was on fire. The *Herald* says:—"In six or seven different spots a flame had been kindled, and to aid in the bonfire, table-cloths, shavings, and other inflammatory materials had been piled up. The fire was extinguished without much difficulty, the discovery having been timely; but the consequences otherwise must have been most disastrous.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT BRIDGEWATER.—A child of Mr. John Vaughan met its death on Wednesday morning last by a strange accident. Mrs. Vaughan had left the child, which was about a year old, in bed, and while engaged in her household duties heard the infant cry; afterwards noticing that all was quiet thought the child had fallen asleep; but on going to see, found that the child's head and face had become so entangled in the bed clothes that in trying to get out of bed it was killed, partly by hanging and partly by smothering, while there were some abrasions of the skin caused by the child's struggles against the bedstead.—*Form.*

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The English Government has directed the English squadron at the Piraeus to decline the hospitality of the Greek Government. This indicates the feeling of the English Ministry towards the Greek authorities on account of the recent brigandage and murders perpetrated on English gentlemen and ladies near Athens.

The Roumelian massacre is denied on the continent, and the absence of any further information tends to augment the quite general belief that the reports are at least greatly exaggerated.

The British journals express in strong terms their reprobation of the false report of the loss of the steamship *Dacia*, and are indignant at what they call American hoaxes.

The *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* says